

## COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Transfer portal system causing headaches for coaches

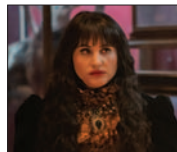
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Online: Get the latest news on the virus outbreak » [stripes.com/coronavirus](https://www.stripes.com/coronavirus)

# STARS AND STRIPES®

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## VIRUS OUTBREAK

### Marine vet recovers after 8 days on ventilator

By NIKKI WENTLING  
*Stars and Stripes*

WASHINGTON — Before Marine Corps veteran David Williams was to be connected to a ventilator, his doctors told him there was a chance he would never come off.

Williams, 54, had been in the Department of Veterans Affairs hospital in Little Rock, Ark., for four days with the coronavirus, suffering from headaches, dizziness and fever. It was difficult for him to breathe, and he lost his sense of taste. He was alone — his wife, D'Anna, and their three adult children were unable to be with him because of the strict no-visitation policies to prevent the spread of the virus.

"I was worried. They told me there was a possibility that I may not get out of there," Williams said. "Sometimes you go on a ventilator, and sometimes you don't come off."

It was March 26 when Williams was sedated and intubated, a tube inserted into his airway so the ventilator could serve as his lungs. When he woke up, he didn't realize it was April, or that he had defied odds by breathing again without help from a machine.

SEE RECOVERY ON PAGE 7

■ USS Truman will stay at sea for sailors' safety

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## Tornadoes batter South



### Residents question how to rebuild amid threat from coronavirus

By DAVID MONTGOMERY, RICHARD A. WEBSTER, CLEVE R. WOOTSON JR. AND FRANCES STEAD SELLERS  
*The Washington Post*

MONROE, La. — Bill Dye was about to sit down for Easter supper with his family when a weather alert blared from their phones. The children were herded into a closet until the tornadoes had passed, then Dye and his sons grabbed chain saws and drove to a hard-hit town nearby

to help clean up.

More than 100 volunteers had gathered, he said. But there was no hugging. People tried desperately not to touch one another. Even amid the devastating wreckage, the rules of social distancing loomed in this parish, where nearly 400 coronavirus infections have been reported — five fatal.

When Dye, pastor of North Monroe Baptist Church, needed people to help him clear trees from a parishioner's property, no one was eager to pack into his truck,

given the threat of contracting the novel coronavirus. So, they pulled straws.

"They've all got dads and moms and grandparents they're trying to protect," he said. "But sometimes you can't avoid it. Say there are sharks in the water but someone's drowning. What do you do? You jump in, and that's what we did. Who knows? Maybe all of us will get coronavirus."

SEE TORNADOES ON PAGE 7

Randy Shoemaker embraces his son Conner, 6, after the family survived a deadly tornado in Murray County on Monday in Chatsworth, Ga. Shoemaker, his wife, Kimberly, son Conner, and daughter Isabella, 4, survived by covering themselves with mattresses in the bathroom of their mobile home while the roof was lifted off and the rest of the trailer flattened.

CURTIS COMPTON, ATLANTA JOURNAL-CONSTITUTION/AP

# BUSINESS/WEATHER

## Treasury puts strings on airlines' payroll aid

Associated Press

The Treasury Department and leading airlines continued negotiating Monday over terms of coronavirus relief payments, with the Treasury sticking to a proposal that could give the government an ownership stake in the nation's leading carriers.

Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin said that agreements with the airlines over terms of the \$25 billion in payroll assistance could come soon.

The Treasury Department

payments were supposed to begin a week ago. The major holdup in recent days was Treasury's insistence that 30% of the aid for larger airlines would be in the form of loans that must be repaid, and with the government getting warrants equal to 10% of the loan amount, according to two officials familiar with the matter.

Raymond James airline analyst Savanthi Syth estimated that if the government exercises the warrants, it could wind up with 3% of American Airlines, 2% of

United Airlines and 1% each of Delta Air Lines and Southwest Airlines. Those four carriers control more than 80% of the U.S. air travel market.

The airlines have fought Treasury's proposal. They thought they had a better deal last month: Congress agreed to give passenger airlines \$25 billion in cash grants to cover payroll costs through September.

Mnuchin spelled out the Treasury's proposal to CEOs of the six largest airlines on Friday.

### EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates		Switzerland (Franc)		0.9621
Euro costs (April 15)	\$1.07	Thailand (Baht)		32.68
Dollar buys (April 15)	60.8877	Turkey (Lira)		6.7975
British pound (April 15)	\$1.23	(Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance for Japan, South Korea, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. For nonlocal currency exchange rates (i.e., purchasing British pounds in Germany), check with your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign currencies to one dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)		
Japanese yen (April 15)	105.00	Commercial rates		
South Korean won (April 15)	1,187.00	Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3771	
		British pound	\$1.2596	
		Canada (Dollar)	1.3879	
		China (Yuan)	7.0510	
		Denmark (Krone)	6.8086	
		Egypt (Pound)	15.1982	
			\$1.0961/0.9123	
		Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.7511	
		Hungary (Forint)	230.82	
		Israel (Shekel)	3.5789	
		Japan (Yen)	107.28	
		Kuwait (Dinar)	0.3086	
		Norway (Krone)	10.3075	
		Philippines (Peso)	50.59	
		Poland (Zloty)	4.13	
		Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7598	
		Singapore (Dollar)	1.4152	
		South Korea (Won)	1,214.00	

INTEREST RATES	
Prime rate	3.25
Discount rate	3.25
Federal funds market rate	0.05
3-month bill	3.90
90-day T-bill	3.90

### INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	3.25
Discount rate	0.25
Federal funds market rate	0.05
3-month bill	0.23
30-year bond	1.39

### WEATHER OUTLOOK

#### WEDNESDAY IN THE MIDDLE EAST



#### WEDNESDAY IN EUROPE



#### THURSDAY IN THE PACIFIC



The weather is provided by the American Forces Network Weather Center, 2nd Weather Squadron at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb.

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[www.stripes.com/relo](http://www.stripes.com/relo)



## MILITARY

# US-backed forces capture ISIS fighters

By CHAD GARLAND  
Stars and Stripes

U.S.-backed forces in Syria arrested members of four Islamic State cells in recent raids, while an Iraqi operation Monday destroyed an ISIS hideout and killed nearly two dozen militants, officials said.

In two operations supported by coalition aircraft over 72 hours, Syrian Democratic Forces apprehended four "elements of the active cells" in Deir al-Zour province, a hotbed of ISIS activity in the country's northeast, the Kurdish-led group said on Twitter.

The raids were part of an ongoing effort to "combat and tighten the noose on ISIS activities," it said.

The operations were a sign of the competence and commitment of the anti-terror commandos, said Col. Myles B. Caggins III, spokesman for the U.S.-led Operation Inherent Resolve.

"The Coalition continues to support the SDF for anti-ISIS operations by sharing intelligence and providing eyes-in-the-sky, while we all face the challenge of preventing the spread of COVID-19," he said in a text message late Monday.

Though it's been more than a year since ISIS was ousted from its last territorial stronghold, the group continues to wage an insurgency in both countries, carrying out assassinations, kidnappings and bombings.



Syrian Defense Forces

Anti-terrorism commandos of the Syrian Democratic Forces are shown in an undated photo the SDF Coordination and Military Operations Center posted to Twitter on Monday.

In Iraq, security forces fought an ISIS sleeper cell for hours in Kirkuk province, the latest in a series of recent clashes.

Coalition aircraft conducted strikes, helping destroy a "terrorist den" in the rugged al-Shai Valley and kill 23 militants, Iraq's security media cell said on Face-

book. One security forces member was killed and at least four others wounded, it said.

The coalition has continued to support anti-ISIS operations with combat support and intelligence assistance, despite withdrawing hundreds of trainers after the coronavirus outbreak there led

the government to pause military training.

Inherent Resolve has also been consolidating its troops on larger bases and building up defenses against the growing threat of attack from Iran or its Shiite militia proxies. Officials have seen a spike in disinformation and

threatening messages online, Caggins said last week.

Meanwhile, concerns over the spreading coronavirus pandemic may have distracted forces on both sides of the Syrian battlefield, said Robin Fleming, a researcher with the Rojava Information Center, in a report last week that found anti-ISIS operations had declined sharply in March, with just three confirmed arrests for the whole month, compared to 96 in February.

ISIS attacks also fell, the independent activist group in northeastern Syria reported. Deaths from assassinations were down about two-thirds, but the group was still distributing fliers throughout Deir al-Zour province earlier this month, threatening anyone working with the civil authorities or SDF in northeastern Syria, Fleming said.

The coalition provided hospitals and SDF-run prisons with about \$1.2 million in medical equipment and riot gear late last month, citing the need to bolster both the COVID-19 response and the detention of alleged ISIS members, who it said would likely try to exploit any weakness and resurge.

Days after the supply delivery, coalition aircraft aided the SDF in suppressing a riot where alleged ISIS fighters had attempted a prison break.

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## North Korean fighter jets fire missiles off eastern coast

By KIM GAMEL  
AND YOO KYONG CHANG  
Stars and Stripes

SEOUL, South Korea — North Korean fighter jets fired missiles into the sea off the country's eastern coast while units launched a salvo of cruise missiles from the ground on Tuesday, South Korea's military said.

The maneuvers were a show of strength on the eve of the 108th birthday of the North's late founder Kim Il Sung as the communist state persists with military activity despite global concerns about the coronavirus pandemic.

They also may have been aimed at trying to influence South Korea's election of its 300-seat parliament on Wednesday, experts said.

The cruise missiles were launched at about 7 a.m. and flew about 93 miles before splashing into the sea in a salvo that lasted about 40 minutes, according to the Joint Chiefs of Staff in Seoul.

North Korean fighter jets also flew over the eastern city of Wonsan, then fired multiple missiles into the nearby sea, a military official said in a briefing, speaking on condition of anonymity in line with reporting rules.

U.S. and South Korean intelligence officials were still analyzing



KCN

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un inspects fighter jets in a western area as shown in photos released Sunday by the state-run Korean Central News Agency.

ing the situation, according to the JCS.

"Our military is paying sharp attention to the possibility of additional military launches in North Korea and is maintaining a firm readiness posture," it said.

It was the latest in a series of launches as the North has pressed forward with its weapons programs since nuclear talks with the United States stalled last

year.

North Korea frequently conducts missile tests in connection with high-profile events.

It refrained from such military activity in 2018 after North Korean leader Kim Jong Un declared a moratorium on nuclear and long-range missile tests to facilitate diplomatic efforts with the United States and South Korea.

However, the North resumed

short-range missile tests last year after nuclear negotiations with the United States collapsed following a failed summit between Kim and President Donald Trump.

The previous launches involved large-caliber multiple rocket launcher systems, ballistic missiles and artillery fire.

It's unusual for the North to launch cruise missiles and conduct air drills.

Kim is likely trying to show his regime is continuing to function normally while the rest of the world is focused on fighting the coronavirus, analysts said.

North Korea insists it hasn't had a single case of the virus, although many U.S. and South Korean officials have expressed skepticism about that claim considering the country shares a border with China, where the virus first appeared late last year.

South Korea also has reported more than 10,500 coronavirus cases, although the pace of infection has begun to slow in recent days.

Kim Jong Un called for stricter enforcement of measures aimed at preventing the spread of the virus during a meeting of the political bureau of his ruling Workers' Party on Saturday in Pyongyang, according to the state-run Korean Central News

Agency.

He also inspected fighter jets and observed a drill in an unspecified western area, KCNA reported Sunday.

Duyeon Kim, a Seoul-based adviser with the International Crisis Group, said the timing of Tuesday's launches suggested the North was focused on shoring up domestic support ahead of the revered founder's birthday, as well as trying to influence the South Korean vote.

"The political messaging is to show their domestic constituents, the North Korean people and the elites that their country is functioning normally despite what appears to be their own outbreak too," she said.

"It's likely that they're also trying to further divide South Korean conservatives and progressives as they always do ahead of every South Korean election," she added.

Trump, meanwhile, has overlooked the short-range missile launches but suggested an intercontinental ballistic missile or a nuclear device would be a redline.

"They're provoking just under that threshold," Kim said.

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## VIRUS OUTBREAK

## Truman to stay at sea for safety

By CAITLIN M. KENNEY  
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — The USS Harry S. Truman will remain at sea in the Atlantic Ocean in an attempt to protect its sailors from the coronavirus, the Navy announced Monday.

The aircraft carrier, and the ships accompanying it as part of its carrier strike group, will remain at sea to be ready to deploy if called upon, according to the 2nd Fleet in Norfolk, Va.

"The ship is entering a period in which it needs to be ready to respond and deploy at any time," Vice Adm. Andrew Lewis, commander of the 2nd Fleet, said in a prepared statement. "Normally we can do that pier-side, but in the face of the coronavirus pandemic, we need to protect our most valuable asset, our people, by keeping the ship out to sea."

The Navy said it will continue to evaluate the carrier's strike group's situation and will update the group's sailors and their families in about three weeks.

The Navy has the highest num-

ber of coronavirus cases of the military services at 1,056. The USS Theodore Roosevelt was diverted to Guam in late March due to an outbreak of the virus aboard the aircraft carrier, which has since infected 589 sailors. The death of one Roosevelt sailor from the virus was announced Monday.

The former commander of the Roosevelt, Capt. Brett Crozier, wrote a letter asking naval officers for help with the outbreak aboard the ship. The ship's environment with its narrow corridors and shared bedrooms makes it easy for the virus to spread and impossible for the crew to follow Centers for Disease Control and Prevention health guidance, he wrote.

The Roosevelt remains docked on Guam as the Navy attempts to control the outbreak. About 4,021 sailors have been transferred from the ship to the island.

The Navy also has three other aircraft carriers dealing with the coronavirus.

The USS Nimitz, now in port in Bremerton, Wash., has had one

sailor placed in isolation off the ship after showing symptoms but having an "inconclusive" test for the virus. Another sailor was on leave in early March when that person tested positive and has not returned to the Nimitz.

The USS Ronald Reagan is preparing for deployment from Yokosuka Naval Base in Japan, where it has been undergoing maintenance. More than 1,000 sailors from the Reagan and its strike group were bused to Yokota Air Base and Naval Air Facility Atsugi last week to complete a 14-day isolation before they deploy.

Navy spokesman Lt. Samuel Boyle said there is a "small number of cases" aboard the Reagan, but he could not say specifically how many.

The 2nd Fleet is responsible for the Truman and the carrier strike group when it is in the Atlantic Ocean. The carrier strike group has a total of 6,000 sailors, with the Truman alone at about 5,000. The strike group is made up of the Truman, one guided-missile cruiser, three guided-missile destroyers as well

as eight squadrons in the carrier air wing aboard the aircraft carrier, according to Cmdr. Ashley Hockycko, a spokeswoman with the 2nd Fleet.

The Truman is heading back to the United States after a deployment to the 5th Fleet in the Middle East and the 6th Fleet in the Mediterranean Sea, according to the Navy. The ship left Norfolk in November after the rest of the strike group had already deployed in September due to repairs for an electrical malfunction.

"After completing a successful deployment we would love nothing more than to be reunited with our friends and families," Rear Adm. Andrew Loisele, commander of Carrier Strike Group 8, said in the statement. "We recognize that these are unique circumstances and the responsible thing to do is to ensure we are able to answer our nation's call while ensuring the health and safety of our sailors."

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## 4 more from Roosevelt admitted to hospital

By CAITLIN M. KENNEY  
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON— Four more USS Theodore Roosevelt sailors infected with coronavirus have been hospitalized in Guam, the Navy announced Tuesday, one day after a fellow crew member died from the illness.

The sailors are being treated at the U.S. Naval Hospital Guam, according to a Navy statement. One of the sailors is in the intensive care unit for more observation because of shortness of breath.

The hospitalizations come one day after another USS Theodore Roosevelt sailor died from the virus that spread among the crew of the aircraft carrier. The deceased sailor, who has not yet been identified, tested positive for the coronavirus March 30 and placed in quarantine in Guam with four other sailors. It was not clear Tuesday from the Navy's statement whether the new hospitalizations are the same sailors.

The deceased sailor was found unresponsive Thursday during a medical check. He was taken to the hospital and placed in intensive care, where he died Monday.

As of Tuesday, there are 589 Roosevelt sailors with positive tests for the virus. Most of the about 4,800-member crew have been tested, with 3,922 receiving a negative test result. About 4,024 sailors have been transferred from the ship to Guam.

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## 7 USNS Mercy crew members test positive

By ANDREW DYER

The San Diego Union-Tribune

SAN DIEGO — Naval health officials are fighting an outbreak of COVID-19 among the crew of the hospital ship Mercy where four more sailors tested positive for the virus over the weekend, bringing the total cases among the crew to seven, a Navy official told The San Diego Union-Tribune on Monday.

The affected sailors, as well as those with whom they had close contact, have left the ship and are either isolated or quarantined off the ship, according to Cmdr. John Page, a 3rd Fleet spokesman.

"Seven Medical Treatment Facility crewmembers on board USNS Mercy have tested positive for COVID-19 and are currently isolated off the ship," Page said in an email. "The ship is following protocols and taking every precaution to ensure the health and safety of all crewmembers and patients on board."

The outbreak has not affected Mercy's ability to receive patients, Page said.

The Mercy is pier-side at the Port of Los Angeles. Its first case of COVID-19 among its crew was reported by the Union-Tribune last Wednesday. On Friday, two more cases on board were confirmed by the Navy.

The Mercy left San Diego on March 23 and arrived in Los Angeles four days later. Its mission is to relieve Los Angeles hospitals by treating patients who do not have COVID-19. All incoming patients are tested before coming aboard.

The sailors came aboard after serving at various Navy medi-



RYAN M. BREEDEN/U.S. Navy

Sailors conduct a patient briefing prior to morning rounds aboard the hospital ship USNS Mercy on Monday in Los Angeles. Seven Mercy crew members have tested positive for the new coronavirus.

cal installations, including Naval Medical Center San Diego.

Because some medical staff rotated through the COVID-19 screening area prior to deploying on the Mercy, one sailor told the Union-Tribune, there is concern on board that the crew brought the virus with them when they left San Diego.

The Mercy has a medical crew of more than 1,000 personnel and a smaller civilian crew that maintains the vessel's shipboard systems.

The Navy has struggled to contain an outbreak of the virus on board another San Diego-based ship, the aircraft carrier USS Theodore Roosevelt. That ship

has been sidelined in Guam since late March when several sailors tested positive for COVID-19. As of Tuesday, 589 sailors on the Theodore Roosevelt have tested positive.

One died Monday of complications from the virus, the Navy said.

## DOD reports cases up 26% since Friday

WASHINGTON — More than 4,500 U.S. military-linked individuals had tested positive for the coronavirus by Monday representing a roughly 26% spike in illnesses reported since Friday, according to new Pentagon data, which included the second death of a U.S. service member.

The Defense Department said 4,528 service members, DOD civilian workers, military dependents and defense contractors worldwide had tested positive for the virus, which was responsible for at least 15 deaths among them. The latest death was that of a sailor on Monday who had been part of the disease in an intensive care unit on Guam after contracting the coronavirus aboard the aircraft carrier USS Theodore Roosevelt.

The latest data showed cases continued to rise across all of the military's services. But Pentagon policy to restrict data about cases at individual military installations makes it difficult to determine where other outbreaks might have occurred.

From staff reports

## VIRUS OUTBREAK

## Fathers allowed back into delivery rooms in Vicenza

By NANCY MONTGOMERY  
Stars and Stripes

VICENZA, Italy — Fathers will be allowed in the delivery room at the Vicenza hospital where Americans generally give birth after the regional Italian health authority modified a coronavirus-related restriction that kept all visitors out.

"In line with the new regional provisions ... it is possible for neopapas to enter obstetrics to attend childbirth, limited to the closing moments," San Bortolo Hospital said on its website over the weekend. "Neopapa" is an Italian word for a father of a new baby.

Although not allowed in for labor, fathers will be allowed to stay with their families for a couple of hours afterward. They would be provided with safety masks, the notice said.

The San Bortolo notice mentioned only fathers and it was unclear whether another support person or a same-sex spouse would be allowed in the delivery room.

San Bortolo has for weeks banned visitors and support people from the hospital, including the delivery room, in an effort to protect staff and patients from the coronavirus. Italy had reported more coronavirus deaths than anywhere else until Saturday, when the reported death toll in the U.S. exceeded Italy's.

It was one of a number of hos-

pitals around the world that restricted access, causing angst for women who wanted their partners with them during childbirth.

Americans tied to U.S. Army Garrison Italy in Vicenza have little choice other than San Bortolo to deliver their babies.

The base stopped providing obstetric care in 2014, citing Army financial and staffing constraints. Three years later, Aviano Air Base's medical wing also discontinued obstetric services and Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany stopped providing maternity services to most women not living in the area.

LRMC and the Navy hospital in Naples have both continued to allow one support person in the delivery room during the coronavirus restrictions, they said.

But with Italy under lockdown since March 9 and many borders around Europe closed, expectant mothers based in Vicenza were not authorized to travel to either hospital, if their reason for doing so was to be able to have a support person with them in the delivery room. Col. Ken Burgess, commander of the Vicenza-based 173rd Airborne Brigade, said last month that he was aware of at least 86 pregnant women associated with his command.

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**'In line with the new regional provisions ... it is possible for neopapas to enter obstetrics to attend childbirth, limited to the closing moments.'**

San Bortolo Hospital

## DOD: Avoid insecticide-treated uniform fabric for masks

By JAMES BOLINGER  
Stars and Stripes

The Marines and Air Force have warned do-it-yourself mask makers to avoid using military uniforms treated with insect repellent or fire retardant due to possible health risks.

Protective face coverings are mandatory in many closed settings across the U.S. military as one measure aimed at curbing the spread of the coronavirus. Manufactured masks are in short supply and the military has approved versions of the homemade variety.

The use of uniform materials

to make custom masks has been popular among service members after photos and instructions on how to create the masks were shared on military-oriented social media sites.

Marines face possible "toxicological exposure to permethrin via inhalation," however, if they wear face protection made from camouflage uniforms treated with the potent insecticide, according to an April 8 post on the III Marine Expeditionary Force, Okinawa, official Facebook page. III MEF posted the warning based on a Defense Department safety bulletin, according to the message.

Permethrin protects troops from diseases such as mosquito-borne malaria and West Nile virus and tick-borne Lyme disease while in garrison, training and in noncombat deployed environments worldwide, according to the Army Public Health Center.

Vance Air Force Base in northwest Oklahoma, one of five pilot training bases, shared a graphic on its Facebook page April 11 cautioning airmen to avoid using material such as flight suits that may have been treated with fire retardant chemicals. It also advised against using uniforms treated with permethrin.

Breathing in permethrin can

irritate the nose and lungs, and cause difficulty breathing, headaches, dizziness, nausea and vomiting, according to the National Pesticide Information Center website.

While not all uniforms are pre-treated with permethrin, those that have been can be identified by a tag inside the garment that identifies it as insect-repellent apparel.

According to the post from III MEF, making masks out of uniform fabric that does not contain the insect repellent is OK.

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GRADY JONES/U.S. Army

Ugandan soldier 1st Lt. Vincent Nziyisenga, a medical clinic officer, discusses the layout of a mobile treatment facility last year in Jinja, Uganda.

## Field hospitals deployed to Africa helping in coronavirus response

By JOHN VANDIVER  
Stars and Stripes

STUTTGART, Germany — U.S. field hospitals recently sent to parts of Africa are being used by some countries to treat their growing numbers of coronavirus patients, U.S. Africa Command said Tuesday.

The 7427 square-foot mobile hospitals, each of which includes 14 shelters, intensive care and radiology units and 20 beds, are being used in Uganda, Ghana and Senegal, AFRICOM said.

"As we work shoulder-to-shoulder, it is exciting to see our African partners putting the capabilities we've developed over the past few years to such great use during this global pandemic," said Air Force Lt. Gen. James Vechery, AFRICOM's deputy commander.

The hospitals were provided through the U.S.'s African Peacekeeping Rapid Response Partnership, which focuses on building up military medical response capabilities for combat casualty care and public health concerns,

including pandemics. The hospitals were deployed at a cost of \$8.5 million in late 2019 and earlier this year before the coronavirus outbreak, and are now coming in handy, AFRICOM said.

When AFRICOM formed in 2007, the Pentagon emphasized such programs as being central to the military mission on the continent. At the time, AFRICOM was touted as a command heavy on soft power, but that image changed as combat operations in Somalia, Niger and Libya became focal points in subsequent years.

Still, AFRICOM continues to carry out medical missions and others oriented toward fostering relations. Ghana, which has nearly 300 confirmed cases of COVID-19, is using the mobile field hospital to treat people with the virus, AFRICOM said. Uganda and Senegal, two countries that have helped counter extremist groups on the continent, are using the units as overflow facilities to support existing hospitals.

"This program, and the medi-

cal capabilities it brings to the COVID-19 fight on the African continent, is a prime example of the unique, continuing commitment that U.S. Africa Command pledges to our Africa partners throughout Africa," AFRICOM's Col. Krystal Murphy, deputy command surgeon, said in a statement.

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## VIRUS OUTBREAK

## DOD: Zoom app no longer an option for official use

Stars and Stripes

The Defense Department is banning the use of a popular videoconferencing application for official business due to questions about its security, a Pentagon spokesman told a military news site.

Zoom is no longer an option for teleconferencing sessions involving service members and DOD civilians, according to a Monday report in Military.com. The site attributed the statement to Air Force Lt. Col. Robert Carver.

The order applies to use of government devices such as computers and cellphones for official business, the report said. An approved option called Zoom for Government is still available for DOD use.

The FBI on March 30 warned

about an increase in "Zoom-bombing" incidents in which uninvited participants infiltrate teleconferencing sessions on the application.

Zoom has gained popularity as a telework platform thanks to stay-at-home orders and increased teleworking. The New York Times on April 3 called it "a de facto social platform for the coronavirus era." In a news release, the FBI in Boston said it received "multiple reports of conferences being disrupted by pornographic and/or hate images and threatening language."

In one incident, a Massachusetts high school teacher conducting an online class was interrupted in midsession by an individual who yelled profanity and the teacher's home address, according to the FBI.

The Times reported an incident March 29 in which an infiltrator drew a racial slur across a slide during a call involving a global network of Muslim leaders, followed by a screen-shared pornographic video.

Friday, the Voice of America, quoting an unnamed Pentagon spokesman, reported the DOD had issued similar guidance, a ban on "Zoom's free or commercial offerings."

However, Zoom for Government is still an option for DOD videoconferencing, according to the VOA report and Carver in Military.com. Zoom for Government is a paid tier service, hosted in a separate cloud authorized by the Federal Risk and Authorization Management Program. Seven government agencies, including three



Pixabay

**The Defense Department has banned the use of free or commercial versions of videoconferencing application Zoom for official business, according to published reports.**

Cabinet-level departments, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Customs and Border Protection are listed as users on the program website.

The program, also known as FedRAMP, enables government

agencies "to rapidly adapt from old, insecure legacy IT to mission-enabling, secure, and cost effective cloud-based IT," according to its website.

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## Cyber awareness star Tina returns in coronavirus video

By CHAD GARLAND

Stars and Stripes

Tina, perhaps the Defense Department's best known cybersecurity risk, is helping educate service members about operational security during the coronavirus pandemic.

A cartoonish character in the Defense Department's long-running computer-based Cyber Awareness Challenge training course, she typically would suggest her new co-workers download MyTunes software. She and her sweater vest-wearing colleague, Jeff, were the subject of many tweets, gifs, memes and Halloween costumes before they were cut from the latest version of the course.

But Tina has returned in a new public service announcement video, in which she pops by a co-worker's cubicle with a few suggestions that could pose a threat to military operational security as units combat the COVID-19 disease outbreak.

"Tina can be relentless," said the U.S.-led Operation Inherent Resolve, the coalition battling Islamic State militants in Iraq and Syria, in a post sharing the video on Twitter. "Make sure you practice proper operational security every day and always! #GOAWAYTINA."

The one-minute spot was uploaded to



Defense Department

**A screen shot of former Cyber Awareness Challenge star Tina in her return to the screen for a coronavirus security video.**

the Pentagon's online media repository DVDSHub.net on Wednesday by Petty Officer 2nd Class Jeanette Mullinax of Media Center — Japan at Yokota Air Base. It was

tweeted by the Air Force's 17th Training Wing out of Goodfellow Air Base, Texas.

"Hi, I'm Tina," she says in the video, as if she needed an introduction. "I heard

that the base is moving to teleworking. I saw you took a photo of the new reduced manning schedule. Can you post that to Facebook and tag me?"

A narrator proposes two possible responses: go along with Tina's suggestion or, the obvious, right answer, tell her, "No, thanks."

"You should never share sensitive information about daily manning or future operations," the narrator explains.

Tina then suggests sharing contact info for ill service members with her so she can give it to a reporter from the fictive ZNN news network. The narrator states that releasing case figures and individuals' personal contact information violates operational security and privacy concerns.

"Your practicing operational security in a crisis continued to protect critical information now, just as you would during a time of war," the narrator says.

The Defense Department has ordered units not to release command-level case figures over security concerns, but the Pentagon continues to release forward data, which Monday showed more than 4,500 military-connected people had tested positive for the virus.

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## Watchdog says DOD networks at risk amid remote work setup

By ALYSA SEBENIUS

Bloomberg News

WASHINGTON — A government watchdog warned that the Defense Department has failed to adequately protect its computer and information systems from "common and pervasive" cybersecurity threats, while the Pentagon on the same day announced a significant increase in its capacity for remote work during the

coronavirus pandemic.

Cybersecurity initiatives at the Defense Department are "incomplete or their status is unknown because no one is in charge or reporting on progress," the Government Accountability Office said Monday in a summary of a report to Congress called "DOD Needs to Take Decisive Actions to Improve Cyber Hygiene."

The report was released as the Pentagon said it has provided new

equipment and network capacity in recent weeks to let hundreds of thousands of troops and civilian personnel work off-site amid the COVID-19 crisis. Remote work often creates new vulnerabilities and weakens cybersecurity, making it easier for hackers to gain access to organizations, according to experts.

While the Pentagon has a list of practices to deter hacking tactics

used "frequently" by U.S. adversaries, it "doesn't know the extent to which it's using these practices," the GAO said.

"The risks to IT systems supporting DOD are increasing as cybersecurity threats continue to evolve and become more sophisticated," the watchdog agency said. "In particular, some foreign nations — where adversaries may possess sophisticated levels of ex-

pertise and significant resources to pursue their objectives — pose a significant threat."

The GAO made seven recommendations for improvement to the Pentagon. In its response, the department concurred with one, partially concurred with four and rejected two of the recommendations, according to the report. A Pentagon spokesman couldn't immediately be reached for comment.



# VIRUS OUTBREAK



ROGELIO V. SOLIS/AP

Sheila Varnado reacts to what she might be able to salvage from her tornado-ravaged home in Bassfield, Miss., on Monday. The storms began sweeping through the South on Sunday, killing at least 34 people.

## Tornadoes: 'This is like a double whammy for our community,' Miss. town's mayor says

### FROM FRONT PAGE

Communities across the South on Monday began the grueling work of cleaning up the wreckage left behind by a string of deadly tornadoes, tasks made more treacherous by the threat of the coronavirus pandemic. The storms began sweeping through the region on Sunday, killing at least 34 people and knocking out power to more than a million homes.

Dozens of tornadoes touched down, associated with a powerful storm system that barreled across more than 700 miles from the Gulf Coast to the Mid-Atlantic. One South Carolina tornado ran along a path 160 miles long, a ragged line almost as wide as the entire state. In Mississippi, 11 people were killed as a pair of massive twisters etched parallel paths of destruction.

In almost all of the hardest-hit communities, COVID-19 — the disease caused by the new coronavirus — has forced people to isolate indoors, packed hospitals and stressed the emergency workers who are the first to respond to a natural disaster.

The overlapping crises have made responding to both a dangerous gambit, now and in the months to come. How do you get people to shelter-in-place when hundreds of homes are damaged or destroyed?

"This is like a double whammy for our community," said Clarkdale, Miss., Mayor Chuck Espy on Monday, as he toured the 47 homes that had been damaged in his city of 17,000 people. "It's already a trying time for everybody. If we don't have any additional coronavirus fatalities, I think we'd have to count our blessings this week."

Government and volunteer agencies that normally sprint to devastated areas are instead tiptoeing, worried about exposing aid workers to COVID-19 and

bringing the illness home to their own communities.

Louisiana Gov. John Bel Edwards, a Democrat, toured the hardest hit areas of his state Monday but didn't stop his motorcade or get out because of pandemic precautions.

He said he made the "difficult decision" to keep his distance — though he had a mask and has no symptoms — because he comes from the southern part of the state where there are many more infections, and he did not want to risk bringing the virus here. He said it was the first time in more than four years responding to natural disasters that he chose not to meet with victims.

"Dealing with storm damage on top of public health emergency is very difficult," Bel Edwards said in a news briefing after touring the damage. Fortunately, he said, there were few injuries so hospitals already dealing with COVID-19 didn't have to face a wave of new patients.

Resident Kelvin Worthy, whose house was rendered uninhabitable by the storm, said that for the first few nights, the city is placing his family in a hotel. Residents said they appreciated not having to go to a communal shelter where they might catch the virus.

Nearly everyone was wearing masks as they hauled salvageable debris from their houses to storage.

Several houses down from Worthy, Charlie Collins' family members had emerged from their home after the tornadoes to find parts of the roof gone and their two cars crushed by debris.

They had been strictly adhering to the stay-home guidance. But their experience of the tornado's destruction temporarily replaced that other disaster among things to worry about.

"Ever since this has happened I haven't given much thought to

corona," Collins said. "You have to receive aid, you're going to be around a lot of people. ... It's hard to think about dealing with the corona when you have to think about this stuff."

Fifteen members of Pinnacle Search and Rescue, a relief organization based in Walker, La., traveled to Soso, Miss., carrying chain saws for downed trees, tarps for damaged roofs and N95 masks for their own vulnerable mouths and noses.

Founder Jon Bridgers said his volunteer group was learning on the fly how to do its work in the age of coronavirus. The threat of COVID-19 is always in the back of their minds, he said, but "when it comes to rescuing people, saving lives and trying to help one another out, you kind of don't worry about it as much as you normally would. If you're going to get sick, you're going to get sick."

Aid volunteers in Tennessee have already been navigating the line between aid work and COVID-19's risk. Hands On Nashville, an organization that has coordinated a massive volunteer response to the tornadoes that struck Tennessee last month, was deluged with offers from volunteers willing to wield chain saws or serving spoons before the coronavirus lockdowns started. But it has since advised volunteers unsure about their potential exposure to the virus to "feel free to ... remove themselves from projects."

In the suburbs of Nashville, Tenn., teams of volunteers who were helping salvage possessions at Melissa Davis' house, heavily damaged in the March tornadoes, have disappeared.

"They can't come now," said Davis, who has been laboriously sifting through wreckage with her husband. "I know there are people just waiting to help us when they can."

## Recovery: Marine vet is out of the hospital, but he's still on oxygen and regaining mobility

### FROM FRONT PAGE

Williams spent eight days connected to a ventilator and 17 days total at the John L. McClellan Memorial Veterans Hospital. When he was released April 9, and no longer contagious, medical staff lined the hallways and cheered as he was wheeled out. The hospital posted a video of the moment, describing Williams as their "miracle patient."

Dr. Matt Burns, chief of infectious diseases for the Central Arkansas VA Healthcare System, told a local television station that Williams' recovery was a morale boost for medical staff.

Nationwide, VA hospitals reported 4,097 coronavirus cases as of Monday, and 241 veterans had died of the virus. Some of the hardest hit were facilities in New York City and the surrounding area, New Orleans, Detroit and Washington, D.C.

The Little Rock VA reported 17 cases Monday, and two veterans were hospitalized. Williams was the hospital's first coronavirus patient to be placed on a ventilator for an extended time.

Williams and his family live in Conway, Ark., about 30 miles outside of Little Rock. He coordinates services for student veterans at the University of Central Arkansas, D'Anna Williams is a nurse at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences.

Williams has no idea where he would've contracted the virus, he said. He became ill March 16, when he first felt an extreme case of chills.

"It was like if somebody dumped ice water on you — like bone-breaking chills," Williams said. "I've never experienced that before."

He immediately quarantined himself in the back room of his home. In the following days, he developed a fever, cough and headache.

After other tests ruled out the flu, Williams received a coronavirus test March 19. The Little Rock VA informed Williams about his positive test results March 22. By then, he had lost his sense of taste, was short of breath and needed to be admitted to the hospital.

The day Williams went to the Little Rock VA, D'Anna started a two-week quarantine in case she was also infected. She received daily updates from Williams' respiratory therapists and passed the information to their three kids, but no one was allowed to visit him.

D'Anna received an outpouring of support from friends and family, as well as Marines who served with Williams. He served with an infantry unit — the 3rd Battalion, 9th Marines — in the late 1990s.

"A lot of my Marine buddies were instrumental in keeping her encouraged and positive," Williams said. "It's a good thing to have good friends and a lot of people praying."

Williams is better, but he still has a long recovery process, he said. He lost mobility and muscle mass during his eight days on the ventilator, and he still must regain lung capacity. He's on oxygen to help him breathe easier.

It's uncertain whether the virus will have a lasting effect. Williams is undergoing physical therapy and will need follow-up appointments with his doctors.

"It's going to be a very slow, slow process," he said.

Williams advised that people follow the guidelines by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, including to social distance themselves, wash their hands frequently and not go out unless it's absolutely essential.

"I don't think this virus is discriminating on who it gets," Williams said. "I wouldn't wish this on my worst enemy."

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David Williams

Clockwise from left: David Williams, 54; his sons Brandon and Dylan; his daughter Brianna; and his wife, D'Anna. The Marine veteran was diagnosed with the coronavirus, then spent 17 days at the Department of Veterans Affairs hospital in Little Rock, Ark.

## VIRUS OUTBREAK

# Virus becomes latest battle zone between US, Iran

By JON GAMBRELL  
Associated Press

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates — Even as both face the same invisible enemy in the coronavirus pandemic, Iran and the United States remain locked in retaliatory pressure campaigns that now view the outbreak as just the latest battleground.

Initially overwhelmed, Tehran now seeks to sway international opinion on U.S. sanctions by highlighting its struggles with COVID-19, the illness caused by the virus. Iran asked for \$5 billion from the International Monetary Fund even as it enriches uranium beyond the limits of its 2015 deal with world powers.

The U.S., which unilaterally withdrew from the deal in 2018 under President Donald Trump, insists that aid can reach the Islamic Republic — though humanitarian organizations say Washington's sanctions disrupt even permitted trade.

At the same time, the U.S. is now withdrawing troops from Iraqi bases, redeployments it insists are pre-planned even as Trump alleges Iran plans "a sneak attack" against them.

The risk of open conflict between the countries is overshadowed by the pandemic. Yet it persists — some say at levels as high as immediately after the January drone strike by the U.S.

that killed Iranian Gen. Qassem Soleimani in Iraq.

"After Soleimani's killing, everybody thought there will be war, but nothing happened," said Mahsa Rouhi, a research fellow at the International Institute for Strategic Studies. "Whereas we were so close to war that it's not that nothing happened. And we are not back to normal. ... We are back to a situation where any move could easily escalate into a conflict."

The current tensions can seem trivial, compared to the pandemic, which has infected at least 1.9 million people worldwide and killed over 119,000. This perception has been helped by mocking social media posts from the U.S. State Department and a former leader of the Soleimani killing, it also accidentally shot down a Ukrainian jetliner, killing all 176 people aboard. Allied Shiite militias in Iraq also continue to threaten American forces deployed there in the aftermath of the fight against Islamic State.

The stakes, however, are anything but. The night Iran retaliated for the Soleimani killing, it also accidentally shot down a Ukrainian jetliner, killing all 176 people aboard. Allied Shiite militias in Iraq also continue to threaten American forces deployed there in the aftermath of the fight against Islamic State.

While largely silent in the initial days of the outbreak in Iran, Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif has begun a concerted



VAHID SALEMI/AP

**Volunteers wearing face masks prepare fabric to sew bed sheets for hospitals at a mosque in Tehran, Iran. Even as the U.S. and Iran face the pandemic, they remain locked in retaliatory pressure campaigns that now view the outbreak as just the latest battleground.**

ed campaign targeting American sanctions. It's a way to absolve Iran's civilian government of responsibility for an outbreak it hasn't contained. But Zarif's allegations of "medical terror" by the U.S. also highlight the challenge Tehran faces in accessing some medical supplies.

While the U.S. says medical and humanitarian aid remains exempt, Human Rights Watch said American laws as written affect Iran's access to crucial equipment, "including ventilators, CT scanners, decontamination equipment and full-mask respirators." Meanwhile, international firms remain leery of running afoul of U.S. sanctions even for authorized transactions with Iran.

All this comes as Iran continues to produce low-enriched uranium with equipment and sites

barred by the nuclear deal. Its nuclear program chief recently reiterated a threat that Iran could withdraw from the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty, though Iran didn't make a show of its program during its recent annual National Day of Nuclear Energy.

That bolsters suspicions of behind-the-scenes talks between intermediaries, particularly over the release of U.S. prisoners and other Westerners. Iranian judiciary acknowledged ongoing prisoner-swap discussions April 6, without elaborating.

But overall tensions remain extraordinarily high. There have been reported maritime incidents in and around the strait as well. On Tuesday, armed men boarded a Hong Kong-flagged oil tanker off the coast of Iran near the crucial Strait of Hormuz, a British monitoring organization and

a private intelligence firm said Tuesday.

The incident near Iran's Ras al-Kuh coast was not immediately acknowledged by either the U.S. Navy's Bahrain-based 5th Fleet, or Iranian officials. However, it comes after the private maritime intelligence firm warned of suspicious incidents in recent days near the strait, through which a fifth of all oil is traded.

The U.S. pressure campaign in part seeks to force Iran into spending at home rather than on its regional allies. Tehran views such groups as part of its defensive deterrence in the region.

Meanwhile, people continue to die of the virus in Iran in the pandemic that could spread further into American allies in the region, forcing the world to still work with Tehran, Rouhi said.

## Trump says he has 'total' authority over reopening economy

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump claimed the "total" authority to decide how and when to reopen the economy after weeks of tough social distancing guidelines aimed at fighting the new coronavirus. But governors from both parties were quick to push back, noting they have primary responsibility for ensuring public safety in their states and would decide when it's safe to begin a return to normal operations.

Trump would not offer specifics about the source of his asserted power, which he claimed, despite constitutional limitations, was absolute.

"When somebody is president of the United States, the authority is total," Trump said Monday at the White House. "The governors know that."

The comments came not long after Democratic leaders in the Northeast and along the West Coast announced separate state compacts to coordinate their efforts to scale back stay-at-home orders or reopen businesses on their own timetables.

Anxious to put the crisis behind him, Trump has been discussing with senior aides how to roll back federal social dis-



ALEX BRANDON/AP

**President Donald Trump says he has the "total" authority to decide when to reopen the economy, while governors say they have primary responsibility in their states.**

tancing recommendations that expire at the end of the month.

While Trump has issued national recommendations advising people stay home, it

has been governors and local leaders who have instituted mandatory restrictions, including shuttering schools and closing nonessential businesses. Some of those orders carry fines or other penalties, and in some jurisdictions they extend into the early summer.

And governors made clear they wouldn't tolerate pressure to act before they deem it safe.

"The president's position is just absurd," said New York Democratic Gov. Andrew Cuomo in an appearance Tuesday on "CBS This Morning." "It's not the law. It's not the Constitution. We don't have a king. We have a president."

New Hampshire Republican Gov. Chris Sununu told CNN that, "All of these executive orders are state executive orders and so therefore it would be up to the state and the governor to undo a lot of that."

"The government doesn't get opened up via Twitter. It gets opened up at the state level," said Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer, a Democrat, referencing the fact that Trump had first made his assertion by tweet.

Meanwhile, governors were banding together, with New York, New Jersey, Con-

necticut, Pennsylvania, Delaware and Rhode Island agreeing to coordinate their actions. The governors of California, Oregon and Washington announced a similar pact, saying they will work together and put their residents' health first and let science guide their decisions.

While Trump can use his daily White House briefings and Twitter account to try to shape public opinion and pressure governors to bend to his will, "there are real limits on the president and the federal government when it comes to domestic affairs," John Yoo, a University of California at Berkeley law school professor, said on a recent Federalist Society conference call.

Mississippi Republican Gov. Tate Reeves, a supporter of Trump, said the question of when to lift restrictions would be "a joint effort" between Washington and the states.

Talk about how and when to reboot the nation's economy has come as Trump has bristled at criticism that he was slow to respond to the virus and that lives could have been saved had social distancing recommendations been put in place sooner.



## VIRUS OUTBREAK

## Ending lockdowns means tests, tech, strategy

Associated Press

BERLIN — Governments battling a virus that has crossed borders with breathtaking speed pinned their hopes Tuesday on tests, technology and a coordinated approach to ease the tight restrictions on movement that have slowed the outbreak but strangled the global economy.

While the European Union looked into creating a COVID-19 smartphone app that could function across the bloc, governors on both U.S. coasts pledged to work together as they planned an easing of the confinement of millions. The main concern is to avoid a resurgence by the virus.

As governments grapple with when and how to reopen their countries for business, the International Monetary Fund projected that the world economy will suffer its worst year since the Great Depression in the 1930s. The grim forecast Tuesday underscored the dilemma facing world leaders as they strive to balance public health against economic stability.

Around the world, India extended the world's largest lockdown on 1.3 billion people until May 3. In Britain, new data showed hundreds more people died of the virus than have been recorded in the government's daily tally from hospitals. The dead include a wave of victims in nursing homes.

China faced a new flare-up along its remote northern border with Russia. The border has been sealed and medical units have rushed to the area to prevent travelers from returning with the virus.

New infections appear to have leveled off in much of Asia and Europe, including Italy, France, Spain and Germany, said Dr. Sebastian Johnston, a professor of respiratory medicine at Imperial College London.

Even in New York — where reported coronavirus deaths passed 10,000 on Monday — Gov. Andrew Cuomo declared the "worst is over if we can continue to be smart." More than 23,000 people have died of the virus in the United



JANE BARLOW, PA MEDIA/AP

A resident looks into a community food larder in Muthill, Scotland, on Tuesday. The old phone box was set up by locals to be used as a food collection and donation point.

States overall, with close to 600,000 confirmed infections, according to a tally by Johns Hopkins University.

With social distancing and lockdowns in place across much of the world, projections that the virus would spread with equal ferocity to other corners have yet to materialize. But without a vaccine or widespread antibody tests to determine how many people are immune to the virus, governments fear new outbreaks.

Germany's foreign minister, Heiko Maas, called for a single smartphone app across the European Union.

"It's important we don't end up with a patchwork of 27 corona apps and 27 data protection regimes but coordinate as best as possible," he told Germany's Funke media group.

Maas said a contact-tracing app already being jointly developed by several countries showed that the EU "doesn't have to copy the Big Brother methods of authoritarian states" but can

instead safeguard both personal privacy and public health.

Lothar Wieler, head of the Robert Koch Institute, Germany's disease control center, said constantly exchanging information among countries and institutions about best practices, vaccine studies and protecting vulnerable people is key.

The virus has also forced rival companies to work together. Two of the world's biggest drug companies — Sanofi Pasteur and GSK — announced they will combine forces to work on a vaccine. Apple and Google last week announced a joint effort to help public health agencies worldwide use Bluetooth wireless technology to trace the contacts of infected people.

In China, where new reported cases have dwindled, life is ruled by a green bar-code symbol on a smartphone screen that says a user is symptom-free and can board a subway, check into a hotel or just enter Wuhan, the city of 11 million where the outbreak began in December.

South Korea and Israel have aggressively used smartphone data to track the movements of carriers. But epidemiologists say contact tracing must be combined with widely available testing, which has been lacking in the United States and Britain.

In Europe, officials pointed to positive signs as they started to reopen their economies.

In Italy, where the day-to-day count of infections has been trending downward, bookstores, stationery stores and shops selling baby supplies were allowed to open nationwide. Forestry workers, needed to clear dead trees ahead of the summer fire season, also returned to work.

In Spain, where the official death toll rose to over 18,000, the country's main epidemiology institute found an additional 1,500 "unexpected deaths" since mid-March after it studied mortality rates.

Spanish workers returned Monday to some factory and construction jobs. Stores and services

were still closed, and the government required office workers to keep working from home.

In Austria, hardware and gardening stores reopened Tuesday. Chancellor Sebastian Kurz said the government is monitoring new infections closely, and "if the figures develop in the wrong direction, we will, of course, pull the emergency brake."

In Britain, which started its lockdown later than the rest of Europe, new infections and deaths were still rising. Britain as of Tuesday reported more than 12,107 deaths of COVID-19 patients in hospitals. But the head of one of the country's biggest nursing home operators said Tuesday that the number of infections and deaths among the elderly is much higher than official reports.

More than 1.9 million infections have been reported and over 121,900 people have died worldwide, according to Johns Hopkins University. The figures understate the true size of the pandemic, because of limited testing, uneven counting of the dead and concealment by some governments.

## By the numbers

1.9M

Confirmed coronavirus infections worldwide, according to numbers from Johns Hopkins University.

121.9K

More than 121,900 have died from the coronavirus, according to Johns Hopkins.

SOURCE: Johns Hopkins University

## IMF: Global economy will suffer worst year since Depression

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Beaten down by the coronavirus outbreak, the world economy in 2020 will suffer its worst year since the Great Depression of the 1930s, the International Monetary Fund says in its latest forecast.

The IMF said Tuesday that it expects the global economy to shrink 3% this year — far worse than its 0.1% dip in the Great Recession year of 2009 — before rebounding in 2021 with 5.8% growth. It acknowledges, though, that prospects for a rebound next year are clouded by uncertainty.

The bleak assessment represents a breathtaking downgrade by the IMF. In its previous forecast in January, before COVID-19 emerged as a grave threat to public health and economic growth world-

wide, the international lending organization had forecast moderate global growth of 3.3% this year. But far-reaching measures to contain the pandemic — lockdowns, business shutdowns, social distancing and travel restrictions — have suddenly brought economic activity to a near-standstill across much of the world.

"The world has been put in a great lockdown," the IMF's chief economist, Gita Gopinath, told reporters. "This is a crisis like no other."

Gopinath said the cumulative loss to the global gross domestic product, the broadest gauge of economic output, could amount to \$9 trillion — more than the economies of Germany and Japan combined.

The IMF's twice-yearly World Economic Outlook was prepared for this week's

spring meetings of the 189-nation IMF and its sister lending organization, the World Bank. Those meetings, along with a gathering of finance ministers and central bankers of the world's 20 biggest economies, will be held virtually.

In its latest outlook, the IMF expects economic contractions this year of 5.9% in the United States, 7.5% in the 19 European countries that share the euro currency, 5.2% in Japan and 6.5% in the United Kingdom. China, where the pandemic originated, is expected to eke out 1.2% growth this year. The world's second-biggest economy, which had gone into lockdown, has begun to open up well before other countries.

Worldwide trade will plummet 11% this year, the IMF predicts, and then grow 8.4% in 2021.

Last week, the IMF's managing director, Kristalina Georgieva, warned that the world was facing "the worst economic fall-out since the Great Depression." She said that emerging markets and low-income nations across Africa, Latin America and much of Asia were at especially high risk. And on Monday, the IMF approved \$500 million to cancel six months of debt payments for 25 impoverished countries.

The IMF cautioned that its forecast is shrouded by unknowns. They include the path that the virus will take; the effectiveness of policies meant to contain the outbreak and minimize the economic damage; and uncertainty over whether, even months from now, people will continue to isolate themselves and depress spending as a precaution against a virus resurgence.

## VIRUS OUTBREAK

## Financial divide

Crisis exposes inequality in US, but will it spur lasting remedies?

By PAUL WISEMAN

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The sick who still go to work because they have no paid leave.

Families who face ruin from even a temporary layoff.

Front-line workers risking infection as they drive buses, bag takeout meals and mop hospital floors.

For years, financial inequality has widened in the United States and elsewhere as wealth and income have become increasingly concentrated among the most affluent while millions struggle to get by. Now, the coronavirus outbreak has laid bare the human cost of that inequality, making it more visible and potentially worse.

Congress, the Trump administration and the Federal Reserve have mounted the largest financial intervention in history — a full-scale drive that includes mandating sick leave for some, distributing \$1,200 checks to individuals, allocating rescue aid to employers and expanding unemployment benefits to try to help America survive the crisis.

Yet those measures are only temporary. And for millions of newly unemployed, they may not be enough.

The disaster that is igniting what's likely to be a deep recession also raises the question of what happens once life begins to edge back to normal. Will the U.S. remain an outlier among wealthy countries in providing limited protections for the financially vulnerable? Or will it expand the social safety net, as it did after the Great Depression of the 1930s but largely did not after the Great Recession that ended in 2009?

"Maybe there will be a cultural shift," said Elise Gould, senior economist at the progressive Economic Policy Institute. "I see it as a great opening to try to (provide) those labor protections that low-wage workers didn't have before."

Gould notes that the government's suddenly expanded role now in distributing relief checks, expanding health benefits and

sick leave and supplementing state unemployment aid would make it easier to extend such programs even after a recession has ended. Doing so could have the longer-term effect of reducing financial inequalities.

Whether the government ends up adopting any long-lasting policy reforms will depend in part on which party controls the White House and Congress beginning in January. In the meantime, the topic is sure to drive much of the campaign rhetoric as the presidential race moves toward the November election.

Along among advanced economies, the United States doesn't require employers to grant sick leave and paid time off. America's system for providing unemployment aid, a patchwork of state programs, isn't as generous or efficient as European government programs that subsidize wages or provide safeguards to limit layoffs.

America's minimum wages also lag far behind those in most of Europe, though many states have raised their minimums in recent years. In 2018, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development concluded that the U.S. national minimum wage paid 33 cents for every \$1 earned by workers in the middle of the earnings spectrum. That contrasted with 46 cents in Germany, 54 cents in the United Kingdom and 62 cents in France.

The coronavirus has struck at the most vulnerable. African-Americans account for 42% of the nearly 3,300 COVID-19 deaths that The Associated Press reviewed — twice their share of the population in the areas covered by the analysis. Blacks as a group earn less, endure higher rates of unemployment and have less access to health care than other Americans. They also suffer disproportionately from the underlying conditions that make them more vulnerable to COVID-19: Diabetes, obesity, asthma.

The financial pain, too, has landed hardest on the neediest as the economy locks down to fight the outbreak. The United States

company running the detention center in San Diego liable if they got the coronavirus, according to Ely and two other detainees, including one who read the form to The Associated Press over the phone.

When they refused Friday, the guards took away the masks, said Ely, who spoke on condition that her last name be withheld for fear of retribution.

While U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement has started to lower the number of detainees to reduce the risk of people

getting sick, those held in immigration jails and their advocates say there's not enough protective gear, cleaning supplies or space to allow for social distancing.

Private prison company CoreCivic, which operates the Otay Mesa Detention Center, where Ely is held, denied that masks were withheld unless detainees signed waivers. Spokeswoman Amanda Gilchrist said Monday that detainees were given an "acknowledgment form" that a mask alone could not protect them from

the virus.

While jails and prisons are releasing some non-violent offenders, ICE says it has freed 160 people so far and instructed field offices to review the cases of people over 60 or those with certain medical conditions.

Opponents argue that ICE could release thousands of people who aren't accused of a crime, have cleared asylum screenings or won their cases but are being detained while the government appeals.



LYNNE SLADKY/AP

Valentina Imbrenda, co-owner of Via Emilia 9 restaurant, wears a protective face mask as she packages meals for delivery to medical workers as part of the Frontline Foods Miami initiative in partnership with Chef Jose Andres' nonprofit organization World Central Kitchen, on Monday in Miami Beach, Fla. The coronavirus crisis has exposed financial inequality in the U.S.

**'I see it as a great opening to try to (provide) those labor protections that low-wage workers didn't have before.'**

Elise Gould  
Economic Policy Institute

last month lost 713,000 private sector jobs. Jobs in leisure and hospitality (mostly restaurants and hotels) accounted for 64% of the losses. And those workers earn an average of just \$16.83 an hour, 41% less than the average American.

They are people like Alexi Ajoste, who worked at a Panera Bread shop for three years before being furloughed late last month. Ajoste, 20, from Tempe, Ariz., has filed for unemployment benefits.

"I have a savings account and have money backed up for emergencies, but it scares me," Ajoste said. "I don't know if my savings account is enough for all of this. I feel like the unemployment checks will be enough for the next couple of months. ... As long as it doesn't last four or five months, I think I'll be good."

Congress' rescue plans are intended to ease the pain. They require companies with fewer than 500 workers to offer paid sick leave, although employers with fewer than 50 can seek an exemp-

tion. The government is sending \$1,200 checks to Americans who earn up to \$75,000 and smaller checks to many who earn more.

The rescue plan extended unemployment benefits for the first time to part-time and gig workers such as Uber drivers. And it added \$600 a week to existing state unemployment payments. But states have been swamped by claims for jobless benefits — nearly 17 million over the past three weeks — and are struggling to deliver the new federal aid.

Shamira Chism, for example, who was laid off from her job as a line cook at a Nashville restaurant three weeks ago, says she's getting by on state unemployment benefits of \$275 a week. But she's still waiting for Tennessee to upgrade its systems to deliver the additional \$600 a week in federally provided benefits.

Throughout U.S. history, economic catastrophes have sometimes led to lasting programs to benefit ordinary people — and sometimes have not. President

Franklin D. Roosevelt drove through a series of lasting changes to the economy after the Depression struck, to provide Social Security pensions, for instance, and to make it easier for workers to form unions and bargain for higher wages and better working conditions.

President Barack Obama countered the Great Recession with a stimulus package and pushed through legislation that provided health insurance coverage to millions of Americans. But a backlash by conservative critics, decrying what they called meddlesome and costly government programs, stymied further action. The government ended up doing less to help the economy recover from the Great Recession than it had after previous downturns.

This time, said Alexandra Cawthorne Gaines of the liberal Center for American Progress, "What we want to see are long-term structural changes," including expanding access to health care. In light of the crisis, she said, there may be more willingness, from Republicans and Democrats alike, to better protect the neediest.

Gould at the Economic Policy Institute said the country needs to strengthen its social safety so the needy aren't left so vulnerable in the next public health crisis.

"This is not the last time this is going to happen," she said.

## Detained immigrants say there's not enough virus protection

Associated Press

HOUSTON — Ely was on the phone in an immigration detention center when guards showed up with face masks and forms to sign.

The asylum-seeker from El Salvador and others had resorted to tearing their T-shirts into face coverings after a woman in their unit tested positive for COVID-19. But the guards would not give out the masks until the detainees signed the forms, which said they could not hold the private prison com-

## VIRUS OUTBREAK

## Some meat plants close; shortages feared

Associated Press

OMAHA, Neb. — Some massive meat processing plants have closed at least temporarily because their workers were sickened by the new coronavirus, raising concerns that there could soon be shortages of beef, pork and poultry in supermarkets.

The meat supply chain is especially vulnerable since processing is increasingly done at massive plants that butcher tens of thousands of animals daily, so the closure of even a few big ones can quickly be felt by customers. For instance, a Smithfield Foods plant that was forced to close in Sioux Falls, S.D., after nearly 300 of the plant's 3,700 workers tested positive for the virus produces roughly 5% of the U.S. pork supply each day.

In addition, conditions at plants can be ripe for exploitation by the virus: Workers stand shoulder-to-shoulder on the line and crowd into locker rooms to change their clothes before and after shifts.

The virus has infected hundreds of workers at plants in Colorado, South Dakota, Iowa, Pennsylvania, Mississippi and elsewhere. The capacity of plants that remain open has also been hurt by workers who are sick or staying home because of fears of illness.

While company owners promise to deep clean their plants and resume operations as quickly as possible, it's difficult to keep workers healthy given how close they work together.



LM OTERO/AP

**Amid concerns of the spread of COVID-19, a meat counter worker hands an order to a customer at El Rancho grocery store in Dallas on Monday. The virus has infected hundreds of workers at meat processing plants in Colorado, South Dakota, Iowa, Pennsylvania, Mississippi and elsewhere.**

The reduced production so far has been offset by the significant amount of meat that was in cold storage, said Glynn Tonsor, an agricultural economist at Kansas State University. Producers are also working to shift meat that would have gone to now-closed restaurants over to grocery stores.

Whether shoppers start to see more empty shelves or higher prices will depend on how many

plants close and for how long.

At least half a dozen plants have closed temporarily, but that's across the pork, chicken and beef sectors, and Tonsor said the industry can manage for now.

"You could shut multiple plants down for a day or two, and we've got wiggle room to handle that," said Tonsor. "But if you took four or five of those big plants ... and they had to be down for two weeks, then you've got a game

changer."

Still, the reduced meat processing capacity is already driving down the prices farmers and ranchers receive for cattle, hogs and chickens.

"It's like people on an escalator. Stopping the pork chain at the top of an escalator is just going to cause all sorts of tragedy and disaster all the way back up the system," said Dermot Hayes, professor of economics and finance

at Iowa State University.

Farmers are being forced to kill baby pigs because the space in the barns where they were supposed to go is still filled by the pigs that should have been slaughtered last week, Hayes said. The meat from those baby pigs cannot be sold.

That has driven prices for those feeder pigs — which generally are fattened over the course of six months — to zero, Hayes said.

Tyson, Cargill and other major meat processing companies say they are adopting several measures: taking the temperature of everyone entering plants, adding clear plastic shields between work stations and erecting tents to allow workers to spread out more at lunch. But critics worry that workers too often continue working in close proximity and that measures are being adopted piecemeal.

Federal health officials do not consider COVID-19 to be a food safety concern, but they recommend that workers maintain a safe distance from one another.

But Lily Ordaz Prado, 30, who recently quit her job at the Sioux Falls plant, said she didn't see those recommendations being put into practice, noting the crowded conditions in locker rooms and on assembly lines. She called her decision to leave "the best decision that I have ever made."

Smithfield officials have defended operations in Sioux Falls and said the company is taking "the utmost precautions and actions to ensure the health and wellbeing of our employees."

## Cities, counties fear losing out on rescue funding

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The \$2.2 trillion federal rescue package could fail to deliver badly needed financial aid to thousands of smaller cities and counties where a majority of Americans live, according to documents and interviews with local officials.

The coronavirus outbreak has blown holes in the budgets of communities as the costs of battling the outbreak skyrocket and critical sources of revenue like sales and income taxes plummet.

The Coronavirus Relief Fund uses a formula based on population to parcel out tens of billions of dollars to the states while allowing local governments with more than 500,000 residents to apply directly to the Treasury Department for cash infusions. But localities below the half-million population threshold are in limbo.

Among those affected: New Rochelle, N.Y. one of the cities hardest hit by the outbreak.

"I cannot understand the logic," said Noam Bramson, the Democratic mayor of about 80,000 people. "Cities with fewer than 500,000 people have been just as heavily impacted as those

with more than 500,000 people. It strikes me as a completely arbitrary cutoff."

The National League of Cities and the U.S. Conference of Mayors on Tuesday released a survey of more than 2,400 local officials that found 88% of them "anticipate the pandemic will lead to painful reductions in revenue this year" that will likely result in cuts to services, worker furloughs and layoffs. The groups said the outlook is "particularly acute" for cities, towns and villages under the threshold.

Amid the uncertainty, the two advocacy groups and lawmakers have been urging Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin to ensure the relief fund money is fairly distributed. Guidelines for how the relief fund will operate are to be issued by the Treasury Department this week. The department launched a web portal through which eligible parties could register to receive the money.

Of the nearly 3,100 counties in the United States, 130 have populations of more than 500,000, according to the National Association of Counties. There are 36 cities over the half-million mark, the National League of Cities told President Donald Trump in a let-



CHARLES KRUPA/AP

**A closed sign hangs in the window of a shop in Portsmouth, N.H., last month due to coronavirus concerns. Hundreds of cities and counties might receive little, if any, of the funding allotted for state and local governments in the \$2.2 trillion stimulus package.**

ter last week. More than half the country's population lives in cities, towns and villages of fewer than 50,000 people, the letter noted.

Cities including Miami and Kansas City, Mo., are under the cutoff, according to the most

recent Census Bureau figures available.

"Depending on who you believe, we're either at 470,000 or 510,000," said Miami's Republican mayor, Francis Suarez. "We're projected to lose about \$20 million a month while our

economy has ground to a halt. The state of Florida is slated to get \$8.3 billion, but we're not sure if we're going to get any of it."

Every state will receive at least \$1.25 billion in relief fund money. The state government gets the biggest share of the total — New York, for example, is projected to receive \$7.5 billion, according to estimates prepared by the non-profit Tax Foundation. The state gets \$5.2 billion of that amount, and local governments that have more than 500,000 residents are eligible for the rest in direct payments.

The Treasury Department guidelines may permit below-the-threshold counties and cities to appeal directly to the governor for a portion of the state's relief fund allotment, according to Matt Chase, executive director of the National Association of Counties. But that may heighten the potential for behind-the-scenes lobbying campaigns to get a piece of the state's share.

"Each local government would have to go hat in hand to the governor and say, 'Can we have part of your allocation?'" said Chase, who added, "We don't need a lot of politics right now."



# VIRUS OUTBREAK ROUNDUP

## California orders insurance premium refunds for users

Associated Press

**SACRAMENTO** — California's insurance commissioner on Monday ordered some companies to refund premiums for March and April because of the coronavirus, issuing a broad directive that includes payments made for workers compensation, medical malpractice and private and commercial auto policies.

The order from Ricardo Lara is based on a voter-approved law from 1988 that gives the insurance commissioner authority to approve rates before they go into effect. The law also says that no rate will "remain in effect" that is excessive, adequate or unfairly discriminatory.

"Consumers need relief from premiums that no longer reflect their present-day risk of accident or loss," Lara said in a statement announcing the order. "Today's mandatory action will put money back in people's pockets when they need it most."

The order covers premiums for March and April, but could be extended if closures continue.

### Alaska

**JUNEAU** — Four employees at a state-run prison in Juneau have tested positive for COVID-19, officials said Monday.

No staff at other Department of Corrections facilities have tested positive, and no inmates within the system have tested positive, department spokeswoman Sarah Gallagher said by email.

Three recent cases in Juneau have involved staff from the Lemmon Creek Correctional Center. Results from a fourth case came in as positive but, given reporting protocols, will show up in the state's count Tuesday, according to the state health department.

### Arizona

**PHOENIX** — Arizona on Monday reported seven more deaths from the coronavirus, bringing the statewide total to 122.

The number has nearly doubled from 65 a week ago. The latest deaths were in Maricopa, Cochise and Pima counties.

State health officials also reported more than 3,700 cases of COVID-19, the disease caused by the virus. That was up 163 since Sunday and nearly 1,250 from a week ago.

### California

**RIVERSIDE** — Three Southern California churches that want to keep their doors open during the coronavirus outbreak sued Gov. Gavin Newsom and local officials on Monday, arguing that social distancing orders

violate the First Amendment right to freedom of religion and assembly.

The suit, filed in the federal court for the Central District of California, also names state Attorney General Xavier Becerra and officials of San Bernardino and Riverside counties.

The suit seeks to block Newsom's month-old stay-at-home order and two county orders designed to slow the spread of COVID-19 by having people mostly stay at home, closing businesses except for those deemed essential and barring group gatherings. The orders don't list houses of worship among the critical infrastructure where face-to-face contact is permitted.

One plaintiff, James Moffatt, senior pastor at Church Unlimited in Indio, was fined \$1,000 for violating Riverside County's order by holding a Palm Sunday service, according to the lawsuit.

### Hawaii

**HONOLULU** — Hawaii Emergency Management Agency Incident Commander Kenneth Hara said Monday that Gov. David Ige's administration is exploring further stemming the flow of visitors amid the coronavirus pandemic by disrupting their ability to make hotel reservations.

Hara told a state House committee for the coronavirus that federal law won't allow Hawaii to restrict travelers coming into the state.

"To try to circumvent that, we're looking at possibly restricting their ability to make reservations with lodging," Hara said, adding that he was working with the state attorney general on the issue. The committee met through video conference, which was broadcast online and on television.

The Hawaii Tourism Authority said that 91 visitors arrived in the state on Sunday and 89 the day before.

### Michigan

**LANSING** — The state of Michigan will offer cash-strapped bars and restaurants relief by buying back their liquor inventory during the coronavirus pandemic.

Gov. Gretchen Whitmer signed an order authorizing the program in a flurry of moves late Monday. The two-day delay to the expiration of valid driver's licenses and state ID cards. And she extended a measure to keep intact a prohibition against dine-in service at restaurants and to continue the closure of many places of public accommodation through April 30 — when her stay-at-home order is scheduled to expire.

Michigan's 8,500 on-premises



A person wearing a protective face mask and gloves as a precaution against the coronavirus walks by the Robert Indiana sculpture "LOVE" at John F. Kennedy Plaza, commonly known as Love Park, in Philadelphia on Monday.

MATT ROURKE/AP

liquor licensees will have until 5 p.m. Friday to request that the Liquor Control Commission buy back spirits purchased before March 16. Participating businesses are expected to keep their bottles for now because the agency will not take physical possession to limit the risk of COVID-19 spreading.

### Mississippi

**JACKSON** — A Mississippi mayor said Monday that people will not have to pay \$500 tickets that police issued to them last week for attending drive-up church services during the coronavirus pandemic.

Greenville Mayor Erick D. Simmons said, however, that the city's ban on such gatherings remains in place to try to save lives as the highly contagious virus continues to spread. The Democratic also called on Republican Gov. Tate Reeves to issue clear statewide guidance on whether people are allowed to congregate for worship during the governor's statewide stay-at-home order that remains in effect until April 20.

The governor's order tells people not to gather in groups of 10 or more. Reeves has said he would ultimately prefer that churches not hold services in sanctuaries or parking lots. But he has also said that government does not have the right to ban worship, and on Saturday he said "liberal politicians" are trying to use the health catastrophe to shut down churches.

Reeves said during a briefing Monday that Mississippi, like other states, is in an "economic crisis" because of the pandemic. He said that he will continue to consult health experts about when a wide reopening of businesses might be safe.

### New Mexico

**SANTA FE** — The Republican Party urged New Mexico Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham on Monday to use "common sense" and allow certain nonessential small businesses to reopen with some requirements for social distancing, putting a new partisan divide on display on responses to the coronavirus pandemic.

Speaking on a virtual press conference with small business owners, GOP Chair Steve Pearce said that new restrictions are unfairly hurting small "mom and pop" shops while allowing big box stores like Walmart to continue operating.

Pearce said that the precautions are too drastic and put small businesses in jeopardy of financial ruin, while at least one small business owner suggested restrictions should be adjusted based on local population densities and infection rates.

Lujan Grisham has indicated that she is working on a plan to eventually re-open the state economy and warned that premature changes risk a surge in infections.

### South Carolina

**WEST COLUMBIA** — With hurricane season less than two months away, officials in South Carolina said Monday that they don't yet have a good plan in place if a storm hits during the coronavirus outbreak, particularly for people potentially displaced from their homes in the aftermath.

During the latest media briefing on the outbreak, Kim Stenson, director of the state Emergency Management Division, said his agency is still working to configure solutions for how to potentially handle thousands of evacuees in an age of social distancing.

The Atlantic hurricane season runs from June 1 through November 30, although Stenson pointed out that the state typically isn't impacted until later in the season. According to the National Weather Service, most hurricanes affecting South Carolina have historically occurred later, from August through October, but there have also been "fairly active" periods as early as May. The earliest hurricane to impact the area was recorded nearly 70 years ago in February 1952.

Forecasters also noted a "general increasing trend" of hurricanes either before June or after October, possibly because of better observation and record keeping.

### Utah

**SALT LAKE CITY** — Utah on Monday canceled a coronavirus emergency alert system launched three days earlier that was supposed to send text messages to drivers entering the state, but ended up also sending texts to hundreds of people who were in their homes, state officials.

Thousands of motorists received the alerts, but the system that used cellphone towers near state borders sent the alerts to far more people than intended, said Joe Dougherty, spokesman for the Utah Division of Emergency Management.

The text alerts that began Friday asked drivers to fill out online forms to report virus symptoms and their recent travel histories.

People who live near the southern Utah border in St. George, the Idaho border in the northern part of the state and in the Uinta Basin in eastern Utah were hit hardest by the unintended texts, he said, acknowledging that the system "didn't work exactly as we had hoped."

# NATION

## Voters reject Trump's pick in Wisconsin court race

By SCOTT BAUER  
AND TODD RICHMOND  
Associated Press

MADISON, Wis. — A liberal challenger ousted a conservative Wisconsin Supreme Court justice endorsed by President Donald Trump, overcoming a successful push by Republicans to forge ahead with last week's election even as numerous other states postponed theirs due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Joe Biden also emerged victorious, as expected, Monday in the state's Democratic presidential primary. Biden's easy victory became academic when Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders dropped out, one day after Wisconsin held in-person voting.

But the absentee-ballot-fueled victory by liberal Supreme Court candidate Jill Karofsky was a huge win for Democrats. It reduced conservative control of the court to 4-3, giving liberals a chance to take control in 2023.

Karofsky now will be on the court when the Republican-controlled Legislature tackles redistricting next year, a fight that

many expect to be decided by the state Supreme Court.

Her win will also certainly be seen as a bellwether in battleground Wisconsin ahead of the November presidential election. Trump barely carried the state four years ago, and both parties see it as critical this year.

Justice Dan Kelly was an early underdog in the Supreme Court race, given the expected higher Democratic turnout since the election was on the same day as the presidential primary. With so much riding on the turnout, the Republican push to proceed with the election was viewed by Democrats as a bid to suppress Democratic votes, particularly among minorities in Milwaukee.

Karofsky credited her win to voters rising up and rejecting Republican efforts to suppress turnout.

"People were willing to do things because they wanted their voices to be heard in this election," she said. "A lot of times on election day we're wringing our hands because we're so upset about voter apathy. That wasn't the problem on Tuesday. People wanted their

voices heard."

Karofsky voter Caleb Anderson, of Milwaukee, worked the polls on election day and thought that the hurdles put up to voting in person motivated some people to come out who wouldn't have otherwise.

"I'm sure there's some level of vindication," Anderson said of the Karofsky win. "I do feel there was a lot of voter activity by people who were angered by the entire thing, the lack of availability of absentee ballots."

Trump's first apparent comment on the Wisconsin result came in a tweet Tuesday, when he wrote: "GET RID OF BALLOT HARVESTING. IT IS RAMPANT WITH FRAUD. THE USA MUST HAVE VOTER I.D. THE ONLY WAY TO GET AN HONEST COUNT!"

Trump has cast mail-in voting as vulnerable to fraud and has specifically targeted the practice of allowing a third party — a campaign or outside group — to collect and send in large numbers of ballots, often dubbed "ballot harvesting." Wisconsin allows for this practice but requires photo



MIKE DeSISTI, MILWAUKEE JOURNAL-SENTINEL/AP

**Claire Woodall-Vogg, a business systems administrator with the City of Milwaukee Election Commission, carries a basket of ballots as election workers process absentee ballots Monday.**

ID for citizens to obtain an absentee ballot and a witness signature on the ballot.

Turnout in Wisconsin's election was 34%, with absentee ballots returned accounting for about 71% of all ballots cast. Those numbers were preliminary, based on how many absentee ballots were returned, and will change based on

how many are actually counted.

Thousands of voters congregated for hours in long lines April 7, defying social distancing guidelines that led to the postponement of primaries in several other states. Milwaukee opened just five of 180 polling places due to a shortage of workers.

## Man takes plea deal in neo-Nazi group's 'swatting' calls

By MICHAEL KUNZELMAN  
Associated Press

A former Virginia college student has reached a plea agreement with federal prosecutors to resolve a charge that he coordinated with neo-Nazi group members to harass and endanger their targets by calling in bogus police emergencies.

John William Kirby Kelley, 19,

has signed a plea agreement and has a plea hearing set for May 8, prosecutors said in a court filing Saturday. The filing doesn't specify any terms of the deal.

Kelley was arrested in January on a charge of conspiring to make threats to injure. He hasn't been indicted in connection with the alleged plot to make and videotape dozens of "swatting" calls to police to instigate an aggressive

response by officers.

Prosecutors in a court filing called it "one of the most far-reaching and prolific swatting conspiracies known to law enforcement." The swatting calls included a November 2018 bomb threat against a predominantly African American church in Alexandria, Va., according to an FBI agent's affidavit. In response to another swatting call last No-

vember against a vape shop, law enforcement in New Hope, Pa., issued a "shelter in place" order for the small town.

Kelley and others involved in the alleged scheme were affiliated with or expressed sympathy for Atomwaffen Division, a neo-Nazi group linked to a string of recent arrests, according to the agent's affidavit.

Kelley, who was a student at

Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Va., suggested the school as a potential swatting target, the affidavit said. Campus police confronted Kelley last November after he allegedly called in a threat that he was armed with a rifle and had placed pipe bombs in university buildings.

The university expelled Kelley after his arrest on state drug charges.

# SERVICE DIRECTORY

The Daily Guide to Navigating the European Business Market

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## NATION/WORLD

# Sanders endorses Biden's presidential bid

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Bernie Sanders has endorsed Joe Biden's presidential campaign, encouraging his progressive supporters to rally behind the presumptive Democratic nominee in an urgent bid to defeat President Donald Trump.

"I am asking all Americans, I'm asking every Democrat, I'm asking every independent, I'm asking a lot of Republicans, to come together in this campaign to support your candidacy, which I endorse," the Vermont senator said Monday in a virtual event with Biden.

The backing came less than a week after Sanders ended his presidential campaign, which was centered around progressive policies such as universal health care. There were early signs that some leading progressives weren't ready to fully follow Sanders' lead. And Trump's campaign was eager to use the endorsement to tie Biden more closely to Sanders, whose identity as a democratic socialist is objectionable to

Republicans and some Democrats.

Still, Sanders' embrace of Biden was crucial for someone who is tasked with bridging the Democratic Party's entrenched ideological divides. Democratic disunity helped contribute to Hillary Clinton's loss to Trump in 2016.

Perhaps eager to avoid a repeat of that bruising election year, Sanders offered his endorsement much earlier in the 2020 campaign. Sanders backed Clinton four years ago, but only after the end of a drawn-out nomination fight and a bitter dispute over the Democratic platform that extended to the summer convention.

Biden and Sanders differed throughout the primary, particularly over whether a government-run system should replace private health insurance. Biden has resisted



Sanders

Sanders' "Medicare for All" plan and has pushed instead a public option that would operate alongside private coverage.

Sanders said there's "no great secret out there that you and I have our differences."

But Sanders said the greater priority for Democrats of all political persuasions should be defeating Trump.

"We've got to make Trump a one-term president," he said. "I will do all that I can to make that happen."

The coronavirus prevented Biden and Sanders from appearing together in person. But they made clear they would continue working together, announcing the formation of six "task forces" made up of representatives from both campaigns to work on policy agreements addressing health care, the economy, education, criminal justice, climate change and immigration.

Biden, 77, has already made some overtures to progressives by embracing aspects of Sanders' and Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren's policies. The day after Sanders exited the race, Biden came out

in support of lowering the Medicare eligibility age from 65 to 60 while pledging to cancel student debt for many low- and middle-income borrowers. He's also previously embraced Warren's bankruptcy reform plan.

Sanders, 78, is sure to remain a force throughout the campaign. When he ended his candidacy, he said he would keep his name on the ballot in states that have not yet voted in order to collect more delegates that could be used to influence the party's platform. He didn't say Monday whether he would continue to fight for those delegates.

Still, Sanders and Biden emphasized their mutual respect for each other.

Sanders referred to the former vice president as "Joe." Biden answered him repeatedly as "pal." The two men asked the other to give regards to their wives, Jill Biden and Jane Sanders.

Biden told Sanders: "I really need you, not just to win the campaign but to govern."

## Officials want delay in nation's head count

Associated Press

ORLANDO, Fla. — The U.S. Census Bureau wants to delay deadlines for the 2020 head count of all U.S. residents because of the coronavirus outbreak, a move that if approved by lawmakers would push back timetables for releasing data used to draw congressional and legislative districts, officials said Monday.

Census Bureau officials said they were postponing all field operations until June 1 and the deadline for wrapping up the nation's head count was being pushed back to Oct. 31.

Field operations for the 2020 census have been suspended since mid-March and were set to resume this week. The deadline for finishing the head count also had been pushed back from the end of July to mid-August because of the pandemic.

Census Bureau director Steven Dillingham and Secretary of Commerce Wilbur Ross, whose department oversees the bureau, said they are seeking to delay the deadline for delivering state population counts used for apportionment — the process of carving up congressional districts — from the end of this month to the end of April 2021.

They also want to push back the deadline for giving states data for redistricting from the end of March 2021 to the end of July 2021. Both deadlines are established by federal law and any changes would require congressional approval.

The White House arranged a call on Monday with congressional leaders about the requested changes, but no one from the Census Bureau was on the call. The House Committee on Oversight and Reform will carefully examine the request, said Rep. Carolyn Maloney, who chairs the

committee.

"The director of the Census Bureau was not even on today's call, and the administration has refused for weeks to allow him to brief members of our committee, despite repeated requests," said Maloney, a Democrat from New York. "If the administration is trying to avoid the perception of politicizing the census, preventing the Census director from briefing the committee and then excluding him from a call organized by the White House are not encouraging moves."

The Census Bureau said that the goal of the delays is to ensure a complete and accurate count.

When field operations start in June, workers will be given personal protective equipment and guidelines for social distancing, the bureau said in a statement.

"In-person activities, including all interaction with the public, enumeration, office work and reporting activities, will incorporate the most current guidance to promote the health and safety of staff and the public," the statement said.

Census historian Margo Anderson said the statutory deadlines are more than four decades old. The bureau has been flexible in dealing with past unexpected hurdles she said.

Former Census Bureau director John Thompson said the bureau was "caught between a rock and a hard place."

"If they start the census again too early, it's going to be a disaster because you are going to get people sick, you're not going to get people to respond and they couldn't get protective equipment for enumerators if they wanted it," said Thompson, who headed the bureau in the Obama administration. "I'm sure this is what the career people at the Census think is the best action."



UKRAINIAN POLICE PRESS OFFICE/AP

In this photo taken from the roof of Ukraine's Chernobyl nuclear power plant late Friday, a forest fire is seen burning near the plant inside the exclusion zone.

## Fires rage near Chernobyl plant

Associated Press

KYIV, Ukraine — Forest fires raged Tuesday in the contaminated area near the Chernobyl nuclear power plant, but officials insisted there is no radiation threat.

Hundreds of firefighters backed by aircraft have been battling several forest fires around Chernobyl since last week. They managed to contain the initial blazes, but new fires are now raging close to the de-commissioned plant.

Volodymyr Demchuk of Ukraine's State Emergencies Service insisted that the situation is under control.

"There is no threat to the Chernobyl nuclear power plant, waste fuel storage or other critical facilities," he said.

The emergencies service said radiation levels in the capital, Kyiv, about 60 miles south of the plant, were within norms.

Activists warned, however, that the blazes were getting dangerously close to waste storage facilities.

Yaroslav Yemelyanenko, a member of the public council under the state agency in charge of the closed zone around the plant, said one fire was raging about 1.2 miles from one of the radioactive waste deposits.

"The situation is critical," he said on Facebook.

Last week, officials said they tracked down a person suspected of triggering the blaze by setting dry grass on fire in the area. The 27-year-old man said he burned grass "for fun" and then failed to extinguish the fire when the wind caused it to expand quickly.

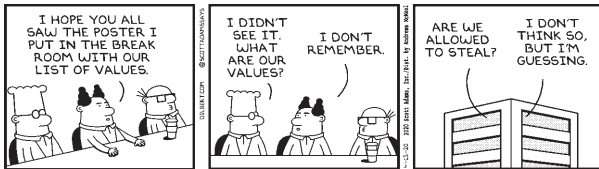
On Monday, police said that another local resident burned waste and accidentally set dry grass ablaze, triggering another devastating forest fire. They said he failed to report the fire to the authorities.



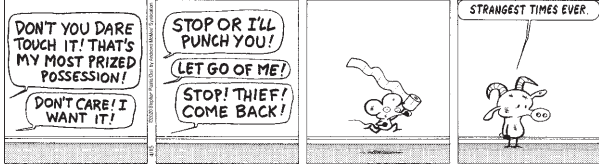
Frazz



Dilbert



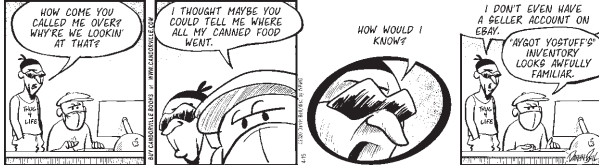
Pearls Before Swine



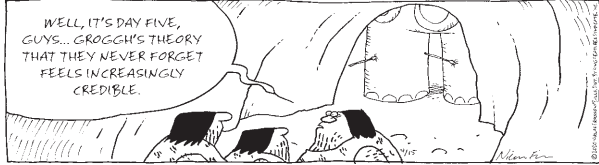
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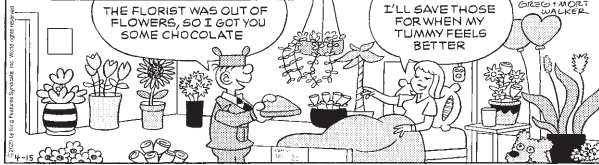
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Carpe Diem



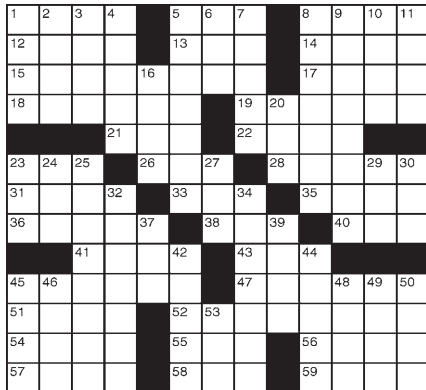
Beetle Bailey



Bizarro



## Eugene Sheffer Crossword



### ACROSS

- 1 Ad agcy. client
- 5 La-la lead-in
- 8 Junk email
- 12 Adhesive
- 13 Peanut product
- 14 Used a loom
- 15 Tabasco, for one
- 17 Bickering
- 18 Sailor's affirmative
- 19 Gung-ho
- 21 "Entourage" character
- 22 Buckeye State
- 23 Possess
- 26 Atty.'s title
- 28 Not taut
- 31 Source
- 33 Calendar abbr.
- 35 "Understood"
- 36 Barbarians
- 38 Sprite
- 40 Sawbuck
- 41 Campus area
- 43 Notable time
- 45 Dribble a basketball
- 47 Kind of table
- 51 Footnote abbr.
- 52 Started
- 54 Memory method
- 55 St. crosser
- 56 Aware of
- 57 Antelope's playmate

- 58 Feeling down
- 59 Boxing stats

### DOWN

- 1 Turkish title
- 27 "— Sera, Sera"
- 29 Middling grade
- 30 Barbie's companion
- 32 Storm warning
- 34 Voted in
- 37 Pouch
- 39 Kermit, for one
- 42 Painter of ballerinas
- 44 In progress
- 45 Oriole or wren
- 46 Bassoon's kin
- 48 Snitch
- 49 Within (Pref.)
- 50 Swelled heads
- 53 Eggs

### Answer to Previous Puzzle



4-15

### CRYPTOQUIP

ON E ABEHI OA AMNNIWOBZ  
NWTF EJJIWZQ AQTULFTA, O  
AMUUF AI OL TOZDL LEHI EB  
EBLO-DOAA-LETOBI.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN CHALLENGERS IN CONTESTS ARE REALLY LONG-WINDED, YOU COULD SAY THEY'RE WORDY OPPONENTS.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: A equals S

# AMERICAN ROUNDUP

## Court sentences man by teleconference

**SC** CHARLESTON — A man who prosecutors said robbed at least three stores at gunpoint and fired at a South Carolina trooper trying to arrest him was sentenced to 24 years in prison in a hearing held outside a federal courtroom because of COVID-19.

D'Angelo Antonio Coakley was one of four people involved in a robbery ring that held up a Dollar General Store in Awendaw, a Verizon Store in Summerville and a Verizon Store in Waxhaw, N.C., in 2107, U.S. Attorney Peter McCoy Jr. said.

Friday's sentencing hearing for Coakley, 30, was held on a teleconference because of the coronavirus.

## Vandal causes damage at construction site

**NJ** BRIDGETON — A vandal used a backhoe to damage numerous items at a southern New Jersey construction site, including the backhoe.

Bridgeton police responded to the site around 8:30 p.m. Saturday after someone called 911, authorities said. They were told that a man in a construction helmet had used a backhoe to ride around the site and smash an electric utility pole, breaker box, an office trailer and the backhoe itself.

The suspect had left the area before police arrived and remained at large Monday.

No injuries were reported, but authorities said that the vandal caused an estimated \$13,500 in damage at the site.

## Artist sought to spend time in forest solitude

**ME** MILLINOCKET — The state of Maine is looking for an artist to spend two weeks in solitude in one of the most remote parts of the state.

The state is taking applications for the Adirondack Wilderness Waterway Visiting Artist Program. The Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry said that the program "provides artists with the opportunity to immerse themselves in a remote, rustic wilderness, to interpret and share their experiences through their medium."

The artist will receive lodging at Lock Dam Camp, a one-room cabin on the northern end of Chamberlain Lake in the North Maine Woods, 60 miles from the nearest town, Millinocket. The two-week stay is scheduled for August.

Applications are available online and due April 30.

## Deputies: Three dozen arrested in drug sting

**FL** DAYTONA BEACH — About three dozen people were arrested Saturday in a central Florida drug sting, officials said.

Investigators seized drugs, money and guns during the sting, Volusia County Sheriff's spokesman Andrew Gant told news



Seth Wenig/AP

## Let's go fly a kite

**Robin Shatzkes, 12, gets some help from her father, Danny Shatzkes, as she tries to get her kite airborne on the Coney Island beach in New York on Sunday. Amid some signs of hope that the coronavirus infection rate is plateauing, New York is wrapping up its worst week in deaths so far since the outbreak began.**

outlets.

As the drug bust was happening, investigators said that Thaddeus Robinson, 40, began threatening detectives. He was arrested and charged with corruption by threat. Officials said that he told a deputy he knew his address and would see him later.

The 36 arrests were in addition to 25 drug arrests made earlier in the week during an operation that targeted street crime, Gant told the Daytona Beach News-Journal.

## Fire that destroyed church was no accident

**PA** STEELTON — Police said a fire that destroyed a Pennsylvania church on Good Friday was no accident.

Steelton police on Saturday posted a notice seeking information from the public on what they call "a non-accidental fire" in a vacant house next to Bible Fellowship Christian Church shortly after 5 p.m. Friday.

Authorities said that the flames quickly spread to the church. Firefighters were able to salvage a few items from the pulpit. Officials said that the congregation hasn't been inside the building since the start of the coronavirus epidemic.

Damage to the vacant building and the church was estimated to be \$100,000. PennLive.com reported that

## THE CENSUS

# 200

now take place Sept. 27. The Maine Bicentennial Parade was also pushed back to Aug. 15. The commission noted that there could be further postponements, depending on how quickly the state recovers from the coronavirus pandemic.

the church has been in the community for about 100 years.

## Arrests made in fatal shooting of teen

**FL** MIAMI — Two men are charged with murder in the death of a South Florida high school student during a shoe robbery.

Miami-Dade police arrested Adrian Cosby and George Walton, both 19, early Sunday and charged them with Tuesday's slaying of Andrea Camps Lacayo and the wounding of her boyfriend, Sergio Berben.

According to the Miami Herald, detectives said that Camps, 18, and Berben agreed on social media to sell Cosby and Walton three pairs of Adidas Yeezy sneakers for \$935. Pairs of those shoes are selling for up to \$500 each online.

The deal was set for outside an abandoned house. Police said that as the couple sat in their car,

The number of years that Maine has been a U.S. state, an anniversary that was going to be commemorated before being pushed back. The Maine Bicentennial Commission rescheduled a party in Augusta that was supposed to mark the kickoff of events. The Statehood Day Ceremony, originally scheduled for March 15, will now take place Sept. 27. The Maine Bicentennial Parade was also pushed back to Aug. 15. The commission noted that there could be further postponements, depending on how quickly the state recovers from the coronavirus pandemic.

Walton approached alone and asked to try on the shoes. Detectives said that Cosby sneaked up on them and opened fire, hitting Camps and grazing Berben.

Police said they found Cosby and Walton by going through the victims' social media communications. Both confessed, with Walton telling detectives his intention was to steal the shoes after trying them on.

Cosby and Walton are both charged with second-degree murder, robbery and attempted murder, and are being held without bond.

## Crash victim steals car of good Samaritan

**CT** SHELTON — The driver of a vehicle involved in a rollover crash early Saturday allegedly stole the car of a good Samaritan who stopped to help and was involved in a second crash, authorities said.

Connecticut State Police troop-

ers responded to a crash around 6:30 a.m. on Route 8 in Shelton.

A vehicle hit a metal beam guard wire and rolled over. The driver wasn't injured. The driver then allegedly stole the car of a man who stopped to help and was involved in a second crash into a tree around 7 a.m.

Authorities said the driver was hospitalized for serious injuries stemming from the second crash.

## School board president facing gun charges

**NM** LAS VEGAS — The president of a northern New Mexico school board is facing charges after police said that he fired a gun at a family member's feet.

The Las Vegas Optic reported Las Vegas City School Board of Education president Robert Duran was arrested last week following an argument with a family member. Duran was charged with aggravated assault and negligent use of a deadly weapon.

According to police, Duran said the family member called him to ask about a slapping incident with another family member.

When the family member tried to approach Duran, police said that he took a gun out of his pickup truck and fired at the ground near the family member's feet.

From wire reports

## FACES

### Universal says 'Trolls' release broke records

From wire reports

"Trolls World Tour" became the biggest digital debut of all time this week-end, Universal Pictures said Monday.

The animated sequel featuring the voices of Justin Timberlake and Anna Kendrick was No. 1 on all the major platforms, including Apple, Amazon and Comcast. FandangoNow also said the release of "Trolls World Tour" helped the service have its best week-end ever. It was also its most preordered film ever.

"Trolls World Tour" was the first film from a major studio to debut on digital platforms on the same date as its theatrical release due to the coronavirus pandemic. It also played in 21 drive-in theaters over the weekend that have remained open.

Most traditional theaters have closed indefinitely, forcing studios to push planned releases back a number of months. Many films that had already hit theaters, including Universal titles like "The Hunt" and "Emma," are now available for digital purchase or rental.

"Trolls World Tour" was an outlier, however, in keeping its release date. Specific numbers were not provided.

### Burning Man to move online

Burning Man ticket holders can no longer gather in the Nevada desert due to the coronavirus crisis. So organizers are bringing Black Rock City to them.

On April 10, the Burning Man Project announced that the annual festival, scheduled for Aug. 30 to Sept. 7, is going virtual in 2020, "given the painful reality of COVID-19, one of the greatest global challenges of our lifetimes."

Event planners say they will "lean into" the extravaganza's previously announced "multiverse" theme by re-creating its desert culture in cyberspace.

"We're not sure how it's going to come out," the announcement said. "It will likely be messy and awkward with mistakes. It will also likely be engaging, connective, and fun."

To offset costs, "some kind of ticket" will be required to access the virtual alternative. For now, organizers are asking those who planned on attending to consider donating at least a portion of the ticket's value.

### Pixar's 'Soul' postponed

Pixar's "Soul," the last major release planned for June, has been postponed to November because of the coronavirus pandemic.

Disney announced Monday that "Soul" won't open June 19, but will instead hit theaters Nov. 20. The major studios have now cleared out all releases until mid-July, where a few movies still remain on the calendar. Those include Christopher Nolan's "Tenet" (July 17) and "Mulán" (July 24), which already had its March debut postponed.

### Other news

■ The average person is streaming eight hours of content each day, double the number of hours from before the pandemic rapidly spread in the U.S., according to data collected from surveys conducted by market research firm OnePoll for streaming service Tubi. The study surveyed 2,000 Americans who can access at least one streaming service.



Natalia Demetriou is one of the stars of "What We Do in the Shadows." The vampire comedy's second season premieres this week.

## Vampire horror comedy, vintage concerts streaming this week

Associated Press

If social distancing is getting old, consider how it would feel to do it for hundreds of years — and stay out of the sun. The vampire household of "What We Do in the Shadows" examines the hilarious possibilities when it returns for its second season this week. Another option to examine worse cases of isolation can be had in "The Lighthouse," available to stream this week. For the young set, Elmo and some superstar friends will debut a kid-friendly coronavirus special. Grammy-winning multi-instrumentalist H.E.R. offers fresh content with her Instagram Live series, while other music acts are offering up a dose of nostalgia, as Pink Floyd and Genesis release vintage concerts.

Here's a collection curated by The Associated Press' entertainment journalists of what's arriving on TV, streaming services and music platforms this week.

### Music

**H.E.R., "Girls With Guitars":** Grammy-winning guitar slayer and R&B dynamo H.E.R. has launched an Instagram Live series about female musicians who are also guitar sheros. It airs Mondays at 8 p.m. EDT and will include surprise guests (last week Grammy winners Alessia Cara and Tori Kelly made special appearances). With the IG series, H.E.R. has also partnered with Amazon Music to raise donations for the MusiCares Covid-19 Relief Fund, which is run by The Recording Academy (which presents the Grammy Awards).

**Pink Floyd and Genesis (YouTube):** On Friday, Pink Floyd will release full concert films every week for four weeks on YouTube. It starts with "Pulse," which was recorded in 1994 during the band's The Division Bell Tour in London. On Saturday, Genesis will also release a series of five concert films once a week. It will begin with "Three Sides Live," which includes live tour performances from two shows in 1981, the year the band released the album "Abacab." The performances were filmed at the Savoy Theatre and Nassau Coliseum in New York.

**EOB, "Earth":** Radiohead guitarist Ed O'Brien, under the moniker EOB, is releasing his debut solo album on Friday. It may be a solo album, but the man ranked 59th on Rolling Stone's list of 100 Greatest Guitarists in 2010 has some top-notch helpers on "Earth," including bandmate Colin Greenwood, Portishead guitarist Adrian Utley, Wilco drummer Glenn Kotche, Omar Hakim, Nathan East, Laura Marling and The Invisible's David Okumu.

— Mesfin Fekadu

Ed O'Brien

Red Light Management

### Movies

**"Moonrise Kingdom":** Summer camps are in jeopardy this year, but you and the (older) kids can escape to New Penzance in Wes Anderson's enchanting and wonderfully dark "Moonrise Kingdom," playing for free on Facebook through Focus Features' Movie Mondays. With a delightful soundtrack featuring Francoise Hardy and Hank Williams, the best of 1960s preppy New England styles and a young Lucas Hedges, it's an aesthetic treat.

**"The Lighthouse":** If you'd rather double down on cabin fever, Amazon Prime has Robert Eggers' "The Lighthouse," available starting Thursday. Moody, claustrophobic and flatulence-filled (really), Willem Dafoe and Robert Pattinson star as a few grizzled "wickies" who are tasked with minding a lighthouse in New England in the late 19th century. They go a little mad in the process.

**"Roar":** Or maybe you're craving "Tiger King"-adjacent material?

"Roar" is just the ticket, available Wednesday on video on demand through Alamo Drafthouse and Vimeo. From 1981, the film with Tippi Hedren, a teenage Melanie Griffith and 150 lions, tigers, leopards, jaguars and elephants is fiction, but the injuries suffered by at least 70 members of the cast and crew were very real.

— Lindsey Bahr

### Television

**"What We Do in the Shadows"** might be just what's needed for those craving escapist fare. The comedy series spun from Jemaine Clement and Taika Waititi's mockumentary film returns for season two with contemporary New York-dwelling vampires Nandor, Laszlo and Nadja facing new challenges. There's a ghost infestation to confront, the possibility of an electronic cure and, perhaps toughest of all, a Super Bowl party. Silly puns and sharp wit will be readily available starting Thursday on Hulu.

Elmo is coming over and he's bringing some A-listers. **"Sesame Street: Elmo's Playdate,"** a half-hour special, features guests including Lin-Manuel Miranda, Anne Hathaway and Tracee Ellis Ross. Elmo and buddies Grover, Cookie Monster and Abby Cadabby find new ways to play together and learn in the special presented as a "cozy video conference" intended to help kids and families feel connected. "Elmo's Playdate" is available on the PBS Kids channel and streaming platforms. One promised highlight: "Hamilton" creator Miranda singing "Old McDonald Had a Farm."

— Lynn Elber



A24 Films

Willem Dafoe, left, and Robert Pattinson star in "The Lighthouse," on Amazon Prime on Thursday.



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Ernie Gates

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# OPINION

## What's lost by weakening the WHO

By LAWRENCE O. GOSTIN  
AND MATTHEW M. KAVANAGH  
Special to The Washington Post

**T**he crisis in the United States cannot end if the COVID-19 pandemic rages elsewhere in the world. It's that simple: In our interconnected world, Americans are vulnerable to infection. The World Health Organization urgently needs U.S. funding to scale up the response in low- and middle-income countries where epidemics are growing. The pandemic could kill millions in Africa, where test kits are scarce and only small numbers of ventilators are available to help more than 1 billion people. The WHO has urged work to do.

Instead of leading with global cooperation, however, the discourse in Washington is becoming dangerous and disingenuous. There are valid critiques of the WHO. But many criticisms recently lobbed by the president and political allies are simply wrong.

Critics have accused the WHO of being too close to Beijing and too "political." This rings hollow. The WHO is a political institution, overseen by 194 governments. Its director-general is elected by a vote of member states. Every director-general has to balance the WHO's political mission of building global cooperation with its mandate to support science-based health efforts. Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus has been remarkably effective.

It is fair to debate whether the WHO struck the right balance in early messaging on COVID-19 in China. We would have preferred to hear more about China's muzzling of independent scientists, lack of transparency and human rights violations. But WHO leaders have long walked a fine line to keep the organization open while coaxing international cooperation. U.S. personnel got key early epidemiological data from China only because the WHO

brokered access. In late January, President Donald Trump was thanking President Xi Jinping on Twitter. "China has been working very hard to contain the Coronavirus," he wrote with social distancing efforts. "It will all work out well."

Critics have denied the WHO's advice in January not to impose restrictions on travel from China, which the organization said is not effective in stopping transmission. The Trump administration focused much of its policy response in February on travel bans of foreign nationals who had visited China. As we all know, border restrictions did not keep the virus out of the United States. Research suggests that the coronavirus circulated in New York since mid-February, brought mainly from Europe. Preliminary data suggests that travel bans have not been helpful; Canada, which did not enact a ban, has fared better so far than the United States and Italy.

The WHO urged in January that "all countries should be prepared for containment, including active surveillance, early detection, isolation and case management, contact tracing and prevention of onward spread." Yet U.S. politicians focused on keeping the virus out rather than rapidly scaling up core public health defenses when there was time to do so.

Some criticize the WHO for not declaring a global health emergency sooner. China reported the new coronavirus to the WHO on Dec. 31, describing a cluster of pneumonia cases and no deaths. In retrospect, the virus probably circulated in Wuhan weeks before China's report. Still, the WHO has been transparent, issuing regular updates and warning governments of likely perils. It was hobbled by inadequate data from China, whose leadership, like the U.S. administration, urged that a global alarm was not necessary.

When Tokyo declared a global emergency Jan. 30, there were still relatively few reported cases outside China. World leaders, including Trump, had ample opportunity to act as the virus swept across China and East Asia, then to Europe. Some countries responded. South Korea, for example, blended aggressive testing and contact tracing with social distancing efforts. It conducted health checks and followed up on arriving travelers. As of Sunday, South Korea had just 214 deaths from its outbreak; the share works out to about 20 cases per 100,000 South Koreans, compared with 162 per 100,000 people in the United States.

The White House, meanwhile, was aware of the threat. Reporting has shown that the National Security Council received intelligence reports predicting spread to the United States by at least early January, and presidential adviser Peter Navarro wrote an urgent memo on Jan. 29. Social distancing guidelines were not established until mid-March. The WHO cannot credibly be blamed for the slow U.S. response.

Meanwhile, China is exercising more power at the WHO and across the international community, partly because U.S. leadership has been largely absent. The United States led global aid efforts in response to earthquakes, tsunamis, and the AIDS and Ebola crises. No such leadership emerged for COVID-19, however, and China has sought to fill the breach.

The U.S. failure to lead a coordinated response is sure to lengthen the duration of this pandemic. Weakening and defunding the WHO will undermine the global response — worsening the health and economic devastation to come in poorer countries. None of this will be good for Americans' health, the U.S. economy or the political survival of U.S. leaders.

Lawrence O. Gostin is a professor and director of the O'Neill Institute for National and Global Health Law at Georgetown University and director of the Center for Global Health Policy at the same school. He is also a senior advisor at the O'Neill Institute for National and Global Health Law. Matthew M. Kavanagh is a senior professor of global health and director of the health policy and politics at Georgetown's O'Neill Institute.

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## Abuse victims can plan escape during lockdown

By LESLIE MORGAN STEINER  
Special to The Washington Post

**D**omestic-violence emergency calls have increased dramatically since families have been locked down around the world. To survivors of abuse like me, this makes sense. We know firsthand that isolation is a prerequisite for abusive love. But this knowledge doesn't make it less cruel or complicated to be forced to choose between a potentially deadly virus and a potentially deadly partner.

Abuse is measured in days of terror. I lived with my abusive husband for 1,460 days. Like lockdown, it felt endless. He held loaded guns to my head, pushed me down the stairs of our house, choked me more times than I can remember, and pulled the keys out of the car ignition as I drove down the highway at 55 miles an hour. I left him 10,585 days ago. But I will never forget how long one day trapped with him felt.

Unfortunately, for most abuse victims, now is an especially difficult moment to leave. But it's imperative to trust your instincts, because you know your abuser better than any expert or advocate does. If you feel your life is in danger, call the police and leave — no matter the consequences.

Regardless, here's what you can do right now: Plan your escape. It took me two years to plan mine, so go easy on yourself, and make sure your actions go undetected until after you are gone.

First, break the silence. Tell someone you trust what you are experiencing. That

person can be a relative, friend, neighbor, babysitter or an advocate at a domestic violence shelter, live-chat line or hotline. You can whisper, call, email or What's App — use the method your abuser is least likely to detect. Your confidant must be someone who will respect your wishes, and he or she must keep your situation a secret until you leave. I broke the silence by confiding in two trusted friends in the few moments I was allowed with them. From then on, even during the dark moments shaking on my bedroom floor with a gun to my temple, I was not alone.

Second, invest in your ability to provide for yourself. This can be through increased education or skills, or finding a way to become more financially independent. It's challenging to do this if your abuser tracks your computer search links, texts and phone calls. Be safe, but try if you can.

Third, secure your children's future welfare. Investigate your state's temporary and permanent custody laws. You could also look into getting health insurance for them under Medicaid or the Affordable Care Act. Leaving is harder if you worry that your children won't be safe, and most abusive use this emotional vise to hold you in place. Many abusers also use pets as manipulative tools, so find out who can take care of your fur-babies, too.

Fourth, educate yourself about abuse. Research patterns via online websites such as One Love (most of which offer secure encryption) or anonymous Facebook survivor groups to get your voice heard. Support from your abusive partner, your children,

your friends, your family — and yourself — when you leave. One expert shared two priceless truths that strengthened my resolve: He'd never seen an abuser completely stop hurting a partner and, because intimacy is often the trigger for abusive control, a person who stops hurting a partner I could take would be to stop trying to help my partner change and to leave him instead.

Lastly, prepare yourself mentally for a future without your abusive partner. Imagining yourself alone can be the hardest part of scary plans. But it's critical to create a vision of your life when afraid or tempted to try one more time. Do this multiple times a day. Your imagination can be powerful medicine. It has the added benefit of being invisible to your abuser.

If I'm describing your world, take heart. I made it out. You can, too. You might not be able to escape all of these steps during lockdown, but know this: You are in good company despite feeling so isolated.

Many wise, independent women and men fall victim to abuse. As a bystander, if someone you love has symptoms of abuse — fear, secrecy, sudden unexplained absences, a personality change — tell them honestly, and kindly, that you care and need to know they are safe. You may not realize how many survivors you can help simply by believing them, and thereby offering an ingredient that will remain free and plentiful, no matter how long this lockdown lasts: hope.

Leslie Morgan Steiner is the author of the memoir "Crazy Love."

## OPINION

## What Biden, young voters need from each other

By STUART ROTHENBERG  
CQ Roll Call

**T**oday, I thought I'd offer another lesson about why context is so important in political reporting and analysis — and how it can affect our view of the 2020 presidential contest.

On April 8, NBC News ran a piece online, "Progressive Youth Groups Issue a List of Demands for Joe Biden," and a letter from "progressive groups made up of young activists" presenting "a set of aggressive demands spanning policy and personnel to earn their support in the general election."

The article lists the groups and their demands — including likely nonstarters such as "Medicare for All," taxing wealth and the Green New Deal — in a straightforward way. So far, so good.

All interest groups have an agenda, and most try to maximize their political clout by presenting themselves as crucial, even if it involves threats of nonsupport. An article about their "demands" certainly was warranted.

But then we hit the bump in the road: The progressive youth letter reflects a major challenge facing Biden ahead of the general election. Young voters aren't enthusiastic about him, but he needs their support to defeat President Donald Trump in the general election and avoid the fate of Hillary Clinton, who saw drop-offs from 2012 among voters under 30 in key states such as Wisconsin and Pennsylvania that Biden has worked to do: A Quinnipiac poll released on April 8 found his overall favorable-to-unfavorable rating tied at 43%, but among voters under 35 his unfavorables exceeded his favorables by 19 points. Trump still fared worse with those voters, underwary by 24 points. Somewhere, in consecutive sentences, we have jumped from "progressive youth" to "young voters," as if the two are synonymous. (They aren't.)

Later, the article stresses the importance of "young people" by noting that "Democrats lack a winning coalition without them." Yes, young voters are "important," but

so are old voters, middle-aged voters, black voters, white voters, suburbanites, rural voters, evangelicals, etc.

If Democrats get no young voters or just a few young voters, they can't win. But that's not the issue.

In 2016, Clinton won 18- to 24-year-olds by 22 points (56% to 34%), according to the national exit poll, and she carried voters aged 25 to 29 by 16 points (54% to 38%).

So, it isn't as if "establishment Democrats" don't win younger voters — even if many of those voters would have preferred Bernie Sanders as their party's nominee in 2016 and 2020.

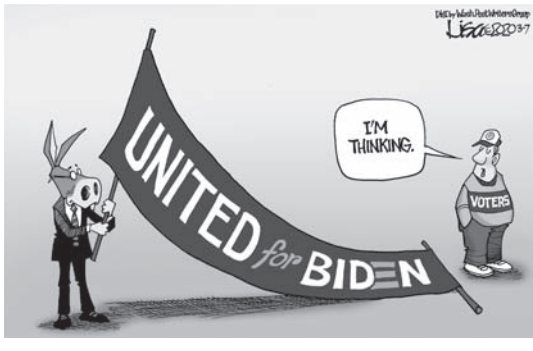
The question is not whether Democrats "need" young voters or can "win" young voters. Instead we need to be asking: What will be their margin of victory among the young? And the young voter turnout? And how will Democrats do with other demographic groups?

The treatment of the Quinnipiac poll in the article was particularly amiss.

Remember, the article noted that among voters under 35 (Biden's unfavorables exceeded his favorables by 19 points," only slightly worse numbers that Trump's 24-point deficit (33% favorable/57% unfavorable). The implication was that Biden was in terrible shape with younger voters and that would cost him the election.

But the article did not note that the Quinnipiac survey's ballot test found Biden with a 49% to 41% lead over Trump among all voters, and a 12-point lead among 18- to 34-year-old voters. Think about it. The premise of the piece is that Biden has problems with young voters — is it young progressive activist voters? — and this puts his election in jeopardy. Yet the poll used to cite his lukewarm support among the young, and his overall vulnerability, shows Biden leading Trump by 8 points among all voters.

There are lots of possible explanations for Biden's overall showing in the poll. Maybe he is performing better among seniors or college-educated white women or voters of color than Clinton did in 2016. If so, to win, Biden may not need more support from young voters than what Clinton received against Trump.



Or maybe, the Quinnipiac age cross-tabs don't give an accurate picture of the race.

Given how 18- to 34-year-old voters have been performing recently, including in the 2018 midterms, does it seem likely that Biden will beat Trump by only 12 points among voters in that age group? Remember, in 2016, Clinton beat Trump by 19 points among 18- to 29-year-old voters and by 10 points among those aged 30 to 44. Two years later, voters aged 18 to 44 went for Democratic congressional candidates by 26 points, 61% to 36%.

The timing of the NBC News article is also worth noting. It came out very shortly after Sanders suspended his campaign. The Vermont senator's most ideological supporters were upset, and many didn't rush to embrace Biden. That's not unusual in politics. It will take some Sanders voters weeks or months to come to terms with Bernie's defeat and confront the choice they now face, Biden or Trump. For his part, Sanders endorsed Biden on Monday.

Six weeks or six months from now, the general election may look very different to many of those Bernie activists. Some may

stay home in November, complaining that Biden is no different from Clinton. But I'm willing to bet that many of Sanders' supporters — at least as many as in 2016, but probably many more — will eventually decide that they cannot take more of Trump and Trump Supreme Court nominees.

So, what's the real bottom line? Young voters will be important in 2020 if they boost their turnout rates and deliver bigger margins to one candidate or the other. But other demographic groups are equally important, including college-educated whites, who swung from the GOP in 2016 to the Democrats in 2018.

Will Biden get the support of all progressive activists? Of course not. Some will take a pass on Election Day, while others will find a third-party nominee to vote for. For some of Sanders' most ideological supporters, Biden may simply be too pragmatic.

But Biden doesn't need all "young progressive activists" to win election. He needs "enough" voters aged 18-29 or 18-34. What is enough? That depends on turnout, how all groups perform and how a handful of key swing states behave.

## Can Trump delay the election? Constitution says no.

By CASS R. SUNSTEIN  
Bloomberg Opinion

**I**t is alarming, and for the least, that people are even asking this question: Does President Donald Trump have the legal authority to postpone or cancel the 2020 presidential election?

The answer is clearly clear: He does not.

Start with the Constitution itself. "The Congress may determine the Time of choosing the Electors, and the Day on which they shall give their Votes; which Day shall be the same throughout the United States."

The founding document reflects an unambiguous judgment: Congress, and not a potentially self-interested president, gets to decide when the leader of the United States shall be chosen. If the president could set the time of his own election, he could specify a date that is favorable to them — or postpone a specified date until the conditions are just what he wants.

Congress has exercised the authority that the Constitution gives it. A law enacted in 1948 says this:

"The electors of President and Vice President shall be appointed, in each State, on the Tuesday next after the first Monday in January, and every fourth year succeeding every election of a President and

Vice President."

A finicky reader might respond: Those provisions are about selection of members of the Electoral College. What does that have to do with the popular vote? The answer is that the two are inextricably intertwined. Under the Constitution, of course, the winner of the election is the candidate who gets the most votes in the Electoral College. Each state is allocated a specific number of electors, whose votes are generally given (by state law) to the candidate who wins the popular vote in that state.

In practice, Congress's specification of "the Time for choosing the Electors" is also a specification of the time for the popular vote. (To be sure, the Constitution also gives states a significant role in deciding how to appoint electors, but it does not give the president the authority to tell states what to do.)

It's true that Congress could change the date that is enacted. Because Democrats control the House of Representatives, however, that isn't very likely (unless circumstances get a lot worse).

And even if Congress decided to do that, it wouldn't much help Trump. Under the 20th Amendment, "the terms of the President and the Vice President shall end at noon on the 20th day of January." The plain meaning is that after the expiration

of a four-year term, a president who has not been reelected has to leave office.

Isn't that the end of the matter? Not quite. It has long been disputed whether the president has some kind of inherent "emergency power." Trump seems to think he has that power (and more). But the Constitution does not explicitly grant the president anything like that — which is a big problem.

The most relevant Supreme Court decision is known as the Steel Seizure Case, and it is one of the most important in the nation's history. It arose when President Harry Truman issued an order in 1952 directing seizure of U.S. steel mills, arguing that a possible work stoppage could create a national catastrophe in the midst of the Korean War.

As a matter of law, the government argued that under the Constitution, Truman had "inherent power" to do what he had done — power that, in his view, was "supported by the Constitution, by historical precedent, and by court decisions."

The Supreme Court flatly rejected that argument. It said this: "The Founders of this Nation entrusted the lawmaking power to the Congress alone in both good and bad times. It would do no good to recall the historical events, the fears of power, and the hopes for freedom that lay behind

their choice."

Justice Robert Jackson, a strong defender of presidential prerogatives, had this to say about Truman's claim of emergency power, and about the views of the Constitution's authors:

"They knew what emergencies were, knew the pressures they engender for authoritative action, knew, too, how they afford a ready pretext for usurpation. We may also suspect that they suspected that emergency powers would tend to kindle emergencies. Aside from suspension of the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus in time of rebellion or invasion, when the public safety may require it, they made no express provision for exercise of extraordinary authority because of a crisis. I do not think we rightfully may so amend their work."

That's pretty decisive.

Of course, we cannot rule out the possibility that Trump's lawyers will gin up a constitutional argument that will support whatever he wants to do, or that he will ignore legal restrictions on his authority. If so, we would be in a genuine constitutional crisis — and be witness to authoritarianism in its defining form.

Bloomberg Opinion columnist Cass R. Sunstein is the author of "The Cost-Benefit Revolution" and a co-author of "Nudge: Improving Decisions About Health, Wealth and Happiness."



## MILITARY MATTERS



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## SPORTS BRIEFS/OLYMPICS/SOCCER



MICHAEL CONROY/AP

Carolina Panthers running back Christian McCaffrey, who was an All-Pro last season as a running back and a flex player, was reportedly given a four-year, \$64 million contract extension by the Panthers, making him the highest-paid running back in the league.

## Briefly

## Source: Panthers make McCaffrey top paid RB

Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — The Carolina Panthers have rewarded Christian McCaffrey for his production and versatility, making him the highest-paid running back in the NFL.

The team agreed to a four-year, \$64 million contract extension with McCaffrey on Monday, a person familiar with the contract negotiations told The Associated Press.

The person spoke to the AP on the condition of anonymity because the Panthers have not announced the extension. Details on how much of the contract is fully guaranteed were unavailable.

The \$16-million-a-year deal eclipses Ezekiel Elliott's contract with the Dallas Cowboys that is worth \$15 million per season.

## Organizers postpone Tour de France

PARIS — After weeks of holding out hope the Tour de France would be able to go ahead as planned despite the coronavirus pandemic, the world's most famous cycling race was finally added to the list of sporting events called off.

It may still happen this year, but it's clear the three-week race won't be starting on June 27 in the Riviera city of Nice as scheduled.

## Larson fired after sponsors drop driver

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Kyle Larson was fired Tuesday by Chip Ganassi Racing, completing a stunning downfall for the budding NASCAR star who uttered a racial slur during a live-streamed virtual race and then watched nearly every one of his sponsors drop him.

The 27-year-old Larson, in his

seventh Cup season with Ganassi and considered the top free agent in NASCAR just three days ago, is now out of a job.

## Hank Steinbrenner, Yankees co-owner, dies

Hank Steinbrenner, the oldest son of George Steinbrenner and one of the four siblings who own the controlling shares of the New York Yankees, died Tuesday at age 63. The team said he died at home in Clearwater, Fla., due to a longstanding health issue.

## Former Royals, Cubs manager Frey dies

SOMERSET, N.J. — Jim Frey, who managed the Kansas City Royals to the 1980 AL pennant and the Chicago Cubs within one win of the 1984 World Series, has died. He was 88. Frey died Sunday at his home in Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla., according to the Atlantic League's Somerset Patriots, the minor league team he had been affiliated with since its launch in 1998. The Patriots did not announce a cause of death.

## Anthony Towns' mother dies of coronavirus

MINNEAPOLIS — Jacqueline Cruz-Towns, the mother of Minnesota Timberwolves center Karl-Anthony Towns, died Monday due to complications from COVID-19 after more than a month of fighting the virus. She was 59.

## Former NFL QB Jackson killed in car wreck

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — Former NFL quarterback Tarvaris Jackson was died in a one-car crash outside Montgomery, authorities said Monday. He was 36.

## Tokyo: There's no Plan B for a second Olympic postponement

By STEPHEN WADE  
Associated Press

TOKYO — There is no "Plan B" for the Olympics if they need to be postponed again because of the coronavirus pandemic, Tokyo organizers said Tuesday.

Masa Takaya, the spokesman for the Tokyo Olympics, said organizers are proceeding under the assumption the Olympics will open on July 23, 2021. The Paralympics follow on Aug. 24.

Those dates were set last month by the International Olympic Committee and Japanese officials after the coronavirus pandemic made it clear the Tokyo Games could not be held as scheduled this year.

"We are working toward the new goal," Takaya said, speaking in English on a teleconference call with journalists. "We don't have a B Plan."

The severity of the pandemic and the death toll has raised questions if it will even be feasible to hold the Olympics in just over 15 months.

"All I can tell you today is that the new games' dates for both the Olympic and Paralympic Games have been just set up," Takaya said. "In that respect, Tokyo 2020 and all concerned parties now are doing their very best effort to deliver the games next year."

IOC President Thomas Bach was asked about the possibility of a postponement in an interview published in the German newspaper Die Welt on Sunday.

He did not answer the question directly, but said later that Japanese organizers and Prime Minister Shinzo Abe indicated they "could not manage a postponement beyond next summer at the latest."

The Olympics draw 11,000 athletes and 4,400 Paralympic athletes and large support staffs from 206 national Olympic committees.

There are also questions about frozen travel, re-bookings hotels, cramming fans into stadiums and arenas, securing venues and the massive costs of rescheduling, which is estimated in Japan at \$2 bil-



EUGENE HOSHINO/AP

Tokyo organizers said Tuesday that they have no plan B for again rescheduling the Olympics, which were postponed until next year by the virus pandemic. They say they are going forward under the assumption the Olympics will open on July 23, 2021.

lion-\$6 billion.

Tokyo organizing committee CEO Toshio Muto addressed the issue in a news conference on Friday. He is likely to be asked about it again on Thursday when local organizers and the IOC hold a teleconference with media in Japan.

The other major question is the cost of the delay, and who pays.

Bach said in the Sunday interview that the IOC would incur "several hundred million dollars" in added costs. Under the so-called Host City Agreement, Japan is liable for the vast majority of the expenses.

"This is impossible to say for now," Takaya said. "It is not very easy to estimate the exact amount of the games' additional costs, which have been impacted by the postponement."

## FIFA: International matches might have to wait until 2021

By ROB HARRIS  
Associated Press

Most international soccer might not be played until 2021 due to coronavirus pandemic travel restrictions and the need to give club competitions the chance to resume, a FIFA vice president said Monday.

Victor Montagliani, a Canadian who is president of the governing body for North and Central America and the Caribbean, has been heading a FIFA working group formulating plans to deal with the implications of the world's biggest sport being largely shut down since last month.

FIFA already has called off matches between countries that were due to be played in March and June. Montagliani, CONCACAF's president, believes the September, October and November windows for national team matches could be scrapped.

"I personally think that might be a bit of a challenge, not so much because of just the health

issues around the world and the various degrees of preparedness, but also committing to international travel as soon as we come back," Montagliani said. "I think that domestic football is a priority. September is still in the books, but I would garner to say that I'm not sure it's there on solid ground the way things are trending."

The return of fans into packed stadiums could be dependent on a vaccine for the COVID-19 disease being ready.

"If we get the green light to play a football match, I highly doubt that first football match will be with fans. I just can't see that. I think that would be taken a massive risk," he said in a video interview from Vancouver, British Columbia. "I'm pretty sure it'll be a phased-in approach, just like the rest of society is going to be in then in terms of us trying to get back to normal here."

A full resumption of soccer in 2020 might not be possible in parts of the world hardest hit by the pandemic, including Europe

and North America.

"If you take that across international boundaries, that's a significant issue," Montagliani said. "And so, yes absolutely, there's always that possibility."

CONCACAF's hexagonal that determines the region's three direct qualifiers is to start in the fall with each nation playing two games each in September, October and November. The United States, Mexico, Costa Rica, Jamaica, Honduras and either El Salvador or Canada will compete.

Scheduling will be discussed further by a working group featuring the six confederations. "I'm fairly confident the March window in 2021 will be fine," Montagliani said. "The priority is to help our national leagues, then look at our events."

The qualifying format for the World Cup in Qatar might have to be curtailed with the time frame tightening to play matches to reach the tournament that starts in November 2022.

## VIRUS OUTBREAK

## CWS cancellation means there's no joy in Dingerville

Omaha relied heavily on event's economic impact

By ERIC OLSON  
Associated Press

OMAHA, Neb. — Rich Tokheim's sports apparel shop is right across the street from TD Ameritrade Park. More than half his annual revenue comes in the 11 or 12 days of the College World Series each June.

"We're here," he said, "because of the College World Series. It's just so many people."

Those people won't be in Omaha this year. The Division I baseball championship, decided in this city of just under a half-million for the past 70 years, is a prominent sports casualty of the coronavirus pandemic — a blow not just to the ledgers and coffers of local businesses but to the identity of the city itself.

Omaha has long prided itself on hosting the eight-team tournament and even built \$100 million TD Ameritrade Park a decade ago in exchange for an NCAA promise to keep the CWS here through at least 2035.

The 24,000-seat stadium is dark 50 of 52 weeks a year, except for Creighton home games in front of small crowds, but for those two weeks each summer, it's the place to be. More than 332,000 people attended the 15 games a year ago and thousands more were outside tailgating, patronizing bars and restaurants, or visiting the Omaha Baseball Village shopping and entertainment area.

For years, there was an RV park near the stadium that was known for its tailgating and was known as Dingerville.

Average occupancy in the metro area's 15,000 hotel rooms was 85% during last year's CWS, with a high of 95% on opening day. Thousands of full- and part-time jobs are tied to the event. The economic impact has been estimated at \$74 million per year, with more than \$6 million generated in local and state taxes.

"My heart bleeds for those folks," said Kathryn Morrissey, executive director of the local organizing group College World Series Inc. "It's their Christmas, our Mardi Gras for our community, when we celebrate."

Instead, there is a void this summer for people who have grown up with the event and made it a tradition — a blow familiar elsewhere across the country. The Associated Press is examining how the cancellation or postponement of iconic sporting events impacts some of those communities.

The CWS started in 1947 in Kalamazoo, Mich. It moved to Wichita,



NATI HARRIN/AP

**Kathryn Morrissey, executive director of College World Series Inc., says the event is the closest thing Omaha has to Mardi Gras.**

ita, Kan., for 1949 before a group of local businessmen brought it to Omaha in 1950.

Crowds at the old Rosenblatt Stadium grew and the memories piled up, from Dave Winfield's dominant pitching and hitting for Minnesota in 1973 to the complete game by Roger Clemens to help Texas beat Alabama for the championship a decade later. By the 1980s, ESPN was airing hours of CWS games.

Ed and Carolyn Conrath of Omaha started attending games in 1974. They bought two season tickets on the first-base line four years later and still own them. The Conraths enjoy the games, of course, but they also look forward to visiting with friends they see only at the CWS.

Carolyn laughed as she told the story of the streaker who interrupted a game in 1974, swinging a pink plastic bat at home plate and taking off toward third base before security caught him as he tried to exit through right field. She said she enjoys the tradition of fans batting around beach balls or trying to start the wave, and the people in the right- and left-field bleachers yelling clever chants at each other.

ESPN college baseball analyst Kyle Peterson grew up in Omaha and pitched for Stanford in the CWS in 1995 and '97 before a four-year pro career.

"For all of us, there's certain things in your life you just assume are going to be annual things, and this is one," Peterson said. "There was nothing that you would think would be enough to interrupt this."



ALONZO ADAMS/AP

**UCLA's players celebrate their win over Oklahoma in the 2019 softball Women's College World Series in Oklahoma City. The event has been hosted by Oklahoma City every year but one since 1990. Last year, it brought in an estimated \$14 million to the city and its businesses.**

## Loss of Women's CWS hurts Oklahoma City's economy

By CLIFF BRUNT  
Associated Press

OKLAHOMA CITY — Last spring, Brandon Baker seized a rare chance to break out his rain playlist in front of nearly 10,000 people.

Storms near USA Softball Hall of Fame Stadium had knocked out the right-field lights during the May 31 evening session of the Women's College World Series that set an all-time attendance record for the annual event.

Baker, who was running the audio board that night, plugged the system into a battery backup. As fans turned on their cell phone flashlights during the delay, Baker played "Lights Shine Bright" by TobyMac featuring Hollyn. And when the lights came back on, Baker's fitting song choice was "The Power," a 1990 hit by Snap!

Baker won't get to energize the crowd this year. The pandemic has virtually shut down sports, including NCAA championships such as the WCWS and the College World Series.

Volunteers and vendors aren't needed. Family traditions will be paused. The annual boost the economy receives in late May and early June won't come.

The timing was especially unfortunate. Everything was in place for a grand softball celebration. Oklahoma City was set to host for the 30th time. A stadium expansion added 4,000 permanent seats to bring capacity at USA Softball Hall of Fame Stadium to about 13,000, and city officials said all the new seats were sold out.

JJ Kuhn, operating partner of Yucatan Taco Stand in the Bricktown section of downtown Oklahoma City, said sporting events such as the WCWS and the NBA playoffs have been a way the city shows itself.

"Sports is one of those ways that we have been able to progress," Kuhn said. "We like to think of ourselves as a big-league city now, and that's the mechanism that we've used to do that. Obviously, college sports in Oklahoma — we love that. It's our bread and butter. Having those national events where we can present ourselves — to have those missing, it's going to hurt."

With softball set to return to the Olympics for the first time since 2008, Oklahoma City was primed to take advantage of the extra attention on the sport. Now the Tokyo Olympics are pushed back a year, to 2021, and Cress is dealing with "a moving target."

"We were ready to open with all the bells and whistles," said Craig Cress, executive director of

USA Softball. "The large things are definitely there. The seats are there. We were on schedule to be full blown and have a great series."

Oklahoma City Mayor David Holt said in the end, it's about public safety.

"We greatly prize this event for its economic impact and we love the brand, and we're very proud to be the home of the women's softball College World Series," Holt said. "But there's no question this was ultimately the right thing to do."

The Women's College World Series has been hosted in Oklahoma City every year except one since 1990. Gina Janzen, who has attended over the years with her daughter, Kylie, won't get that chance this year. Kylie signed to play Division II softball for Oklahoma Christian in February, in part because the players she watched while growing up motivated her.

"It's such a huge loss," Gina Janzen said. "You mourn it a little, but you also understand the gravity of what's going on in the world and why you can't have these things."

The Oklahoma City Convention and Visitors Bureau estimated the city pulled in \$14.4 million from the WCWS last year. This year's projection ranged between \$23.6 million and \$27 million.

Sue Hollenbeck, director of sports business for the bureau, said the Bricktown neighborhood will take the biggest hit.

"They'd eat at all the restaurants, go to the bars, get on the water taxi, do the shopping," she said.

"Anything and everything they could do, they would do when they weren't at the stadium."

David Southard, owner of Jazmo's Bourbon Street Cafe, said his Bricktown restaurant with 70 employees is closed. He said the WCWS has been good for business for the past 20 years but it won't be part of his plans to reopen this spring.

After the deadly bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in 1995, Holt said the city went all out in 1996 to make sure events were special.

"People who were around back then will tell you that the return events were some of the favorites of the whole history," Holt said. "There's just a higher level of joy than ever when they come back. So we have that to look forward to next year."

**‘We were ready to open with all the bells and whistles.’**

**Craig Cress**  
USA Softball  
executive director

## COLLEGE BASKETBALL/NBA

## Exit: Wichita State might have to replace 7 transfers

## FROM BACK PAGE

"It's created a system in which, when problems arise, (players) are not going to fight through the problems and adversity," Marshall said. "You're going to make a move. It's going to be easy to do. That's the problem I see with it."

The Shockers went 23-8 and spent much of last season hanging around the Top 25, and they were likely to receive an at-large bid to the NCAA Tournament had it not been canceled. Fast forward a few weeks and Marshall is wondering how he might need to replace seven players who placed their names in the transfer portal.

They run the gamut from high-scoring guard Erik Stevenson, who has committed to Washington, and talented freshman Grant Sherfield, who is headed to Nevada, to role players that hardly saw the floor. But together, they left Marshall with a roster full of holes that he must plug even while the coronavirus pandemic has put the brakes on recruiting.

So much for those lessons he picked up from Kresse back in Charleston.

More than 500 names have been entered into the portal in the month since the season ended, and new names are added by the dozen. Some come from big-name programs in search of a fresh start, others from small schools with something to prove. Many are graduate transfers who can play immediately, though most will have to sit out a year under NCAA transfer rules.

"You have to respect each young guy's decision because that's the culture we live in today," Missouri coach Cuonzo Martin said. "You have guys leaving teams. That's just the way it is. But when you're talking about freshmen, they have to have the opportunity to play from Day 1 or you'll be looking at a lot of this."

No brand of school is unaffected, either.

Johnny Juzang and Kahli Whitney jumped into the portal

after their freshman seasons at Kentucky, and Alex O'Connell made the move after his junior year at Duke, creating holes for the bluest of blue bloods. Some Power Five programs such as Iowa State, with five players in the transfer portal, have begun to resemble a bus stop with players coming and going.

Then there are the mid-majors such as George Washington, which likewise watched five players enter the portal — four have already found new homes. In a bit of symmetry, the Colonials have filled three of those scholarships with transfers of their own from Southern Miss, LSU and Vanderbilt.

"There's a lot of juggling that has to take place because of the transfer portal," said Kansas coach Bill Self, who lost elite guard Isaac McBride to Vanderbilt but enjoyed the benefit of getting sharp-shooter Isaiah Moss from Iowa this past season. "I think that recruiting is more of an inexact science right now than it ever has been."

Not every coach believes the transfer portal has become a problem.

Some of them point to the hypocrisy of coaches being able to freely change schools while players have long been locked into scholarships, and the fact that the transfer portal has created a level playing field where everybody can have a shot at a player interested in new surroundings. Those adept at landing high-profile transfers often have benefited, too.

Marshall himself took advantage of the transfer portal to land Connecticut transfer Alterique Gilbert and could be in the market for another player or two.

"The biggest thing for coaches as this transfer portal takes on a life of its own, you're not building a program anymore. I don't know anybody who can do that," Marshall said. "It's hard for us to do that because you're building a team every year."



ORLIN WAGNER/AP

Kansas guard Devon Dotson is entering the NBA Draft after his sophomore season.

## Date, order uncertain, but draft evaluations press on

NBA has been advising players considering leaving college early

By TIM REYNOLDS

Associated Press

There are many unknowns about the NBA Draft, though some elements are proceeding as usual and one deadline is looming this week.

The NBA — as per usual — has been sending evaluations to players who are considering leaving college early and entering the draft and will continue doing so to all underclassmen who ask for them by Thursday. That task falls to the league's Undergraduate Advisory Committee, which understands that what it says in these uncertain times may carry even more weight than usual.

"This is a process that's important, maybe more important this year than ever," said Kiki VanDeWeghe, the NBA's Executive Vice President of Basketball Operations and UAC committee chair. "We're trying to get the athletes and the schools as much information as we possibly can. It's important that they have the clearest picture."

Because of the coronavirus pandemic that has shut down the sports world, including the NBA, nobody knows when the draft will be held, who will have the No. 1 overall pick or how that will be decided. Nobody even knows when or if the draft combine, which is scheduled for mid-May and technically has not yet been changed, will take place.

Kansas guard Devon Dotson declared Monday he was entering the draft after leading the Big 12 in scoring his sophomore season.

Dotson participated in the combine last summer before returning to school. He said this time he

## DID YOU KNOW?

Since 2016, based on its own evaluation and feedback that the 30 NBA teams share as part of the draft process, the NBA has told 66 candidates that they are first-round material and 49 others that they wouldn't be drafted. They hit on 89% of those first-round projections and 96% of the undrafted projections.

SOURCE: Associated Press

intends to sign with an agent and remain in the draft.

The 6-foot-2 guard averaged 18.1 points, 4.1 rebounds, 4 assists and 2.1 steals while helping Kansas go 28-3 and win its final 16 games.

When underclassmen ask, the NBA sends evaluations with a percentage of likelihood that they will fall into one of five draft-night categories — lottery (picks 1-14), first-round non-lottery (picks 15-30), first half of second round (picks 31-45), second half of second round (picks 46-60), and undrafted.

It's not an exact science, but the league has pretty good success with it: Since 2016, based on its own evaluation and feedback that the 30 NBA teams share as part of the process, the league has told 66 candidates that they are first-round material and 49 others that they wouldn't be drafted. They hit on 89% of those first-round projections and 96% of the undrafted projections.

"It is unprecedented times and difficult times for everybody and we try to do our best to make that easier for student athletes as far

as navigating that process and understanding that process," VanDeWeghe said.

The UAC will continue sending evaluations through April 26, which is also the league's deadline for players to decide if they will enter the draft.

So far, about 200 college early entry and international players have tested the waters for this draft. Most will withdraw, and that number is consistent with last year — when the league saw 219 hopefuls.

Kentucky guard Immanuel Quickley became the third Wildcat to say he will enter the draft on Monday. Quickley said he will sign with an agent and leave school after a breakout season in which the 6-foot-3 sophomore was voted SEC Player of the Year.

Quickley joins teammates sophomore Ashton Hagans and freshman Tyrese Maxey, to announce they will enter the draft.

All of the applicants are not just getting their potential draft slot, but the league is taking the additional step this year of offering mental health resources under the advice of Dr. Kensa Gunter and Dr. Vic Schwartz — an extra and necessary part of the puzzle, the NBA thinks, given the unprecedented nature of these times.

The evaluation-request and early entry deadlines aren't changing, as of now anyway, VanDeWeghe said. Everything else is on a very fluid timetable.

The draft was supposed to be June 25. That now seems highly unlikely, and plenty of teams have asked the NBA for a delay that looks inevitable.

AP Sports Writer Greg Beacham in Los Angeles contributed.



RON JENNINS/AP

Kansas got sharp-shooting guard Isaiah Moss, right, from Iowa after losing elite guard Isaac McBride to Vanderbilt.



## SPORTS



## McMillions

Source: Panthers make McCaffrey highest-paid RB » **Sports briefs, Page 21**

## COLLEGE BASKETBALL

## Easy exit

## Transfer portal causing headaches for coaches

By DAVE SKRETTA  
Associated Press

**G**REGG Marshall began his career as an assistant at tiny Randolph-Macon and Belmont Abbey, but it was during eight years on the staff of Hall of Fame coach John Kresse at College of Charleston that he learned to build a basketball program.

Marshall learned how to recruit players who fit his style. He learned how to find overlooked gems, guys who were still growing or had yet to discover their shot. He learned how to sit in their living rooms and convince moms and dads that their sons would get a good education and in four years be prepared for the real world.

Many of those lessons have helped Marshall become Wichita State's winningest coach. But many have lost their value, and the reason is simple: The NCAA transfer portal has forced coaches to build teams rather than programs.

The system was implemented two years ago, intended to help ease the burden on administrators, increase transparency and empower athletes who complained about being prevented at times from going elsewhere. But in the eyes of many coaches, the portal has made transferring too easy, giving players an easy out for any reason: amount of playing time, location, level of competition, even something as silly as school colors.

**SEE EXIT ON PAGE 23**

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TRAVIS HEYING, THE WICHITA EAGLE, ABOVE, AND JESSICA HILL, LEFT/AP

Above: Wichita State's Erik Stevenson, left, goes to the basket against East Carolina's Brandon Suggs. Stevenson is one of seven Wichita State players who have entered the transfer portal. Left: Wichita State coach Gregg Marshall is faced with the task of rebuilding a team that went 23-8 last season.

## TO OUR READERS

As the sports world pauses to join the rest of the world in fighting the coronavirus pandemic, you will see fewer sports stories in Stars and Stripes. We look forward to resuming our normal coverage when the leagues and governing bodies determine it is safe for athletes and fans to return to competition.

